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## Fishing Report



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## Trump raises tariffs on Chinese goods as trade war escalates

By P. WISEMAN, J. COLVIN  
and J. McDONALD

The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Donald Trump angrily escalated his trade fight with China on Friday, raising retaliatory tariffs and ordering American companies to consider alternatives to doing business there. He also blamed Jerome Powell, the man he appointed as chairman of the Federal Reserve, for the state of the domestic economy, wondering who was a "bigger enemy" of the U.S. - Powell or Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Even by the turbulent standards of the Trump presidency, his actions, all done via Twitter, were notable, sending markets sharply lower and adding to a sense of uncertainty on the eve of his trip to France for a meeting of global economic powers.



In this June 29, 2019, file photo, President Donald Trump, left, meets with Chinese President Xi Jinping during a meeting on the sidelines of the G-20 summit in Osaka, Japan.

Associated Press

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# Trump raises tariffs on Chinese goods as trade war escalates

Continued from Front

Trump's move came after Beijing announced Friday morning that it had raised taxes on U.S. products. He huddled with advisers, firing off tweets that attacked China and the Fed. And he mockingly attributed a drop of 573 points to the withdrawal from the Democratic presidential race of a marginal candidate. The Dow Jones average eventually closed down 623 points.

The president attacked the Fed for not lowering rates at an informal gathering in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, where no such action was under consideration.

Powell, speaking to central bankers, gave vague assurances that the Fed would act to sustain the nation's economic expansion, but noted that the central bank had limited tools to deal with damage from the trade dispute.

Trump said he would be raising planned tariffs on \$300 billion in Chinese goods from 10% to 15%. The Office of the U.S. Trade

Representative also said existing tariffs on another \$250 billion in Chinese imports would go from 25% to 30% on Oct. 1 after receiving feedback from the public.

The impact could be sweeping for consumers. "With each percentage point added to the tariff hikes, it becomes more and more difficult for importers not to pass the costs on to the U.S. consumer," said Wendy Cutler, a former U.S. trade negotiator now at the Asia Society Policy Institute. "And this is not to mention the uncertainty that these increases contribute to the overall business environment."

Trump acted hours after Beijing said it would hike tariffs on \$75 billion in U.S. imports, a move that some economists fear could tip a fragile global economy into recession.

The president appeared caught off-guard by China's tariff increase, and was angry when he gathered with his trade team in the Oval Office before departing for France, ac-



In this May 9, 2019, file photo a General Electric washing machine with a label advertising it was made in America is displayed in retail stores in Cranberry Township, Pa.

**Associated Press**

cording to two people familiar with the meeting who spoke to AP on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to disclose closed-door conversations.

Administration officials, including U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and adviser Peter Navarro discussed potential retaliatory options. Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin, returning from vacation, joined by phone.

Earlier Friday, the president said he "hereby ordered" U.S. companies to seek alternatives to doing business in China. The White House did not cite what authority the president could use to force private businesses to change their practices.

Trump's latest escalation will impose a burden on many American households. Even before he announced an increase Friday, J.P. Morgan had estimated that Trump's tariffs would cost the average household roughly \$1,000 a year if he proceeded with his threats.

Businesses large and small joined in a chorus of opposition to the intensifying hostilities.

"It's impossible for businesses to plan for the future in this type of environment," said David French, senior vice president of government relations at the Na-

tional Retail Federation. "The administration's approach clearly isn't working, and the answer isn't more taxes on American businesses and consumers. Where does this end?"

If Trump goes ahead with all the tariffs he's announced, they would cover just about everything China ships to the United States.

China, for its part, slapped new tariffs of 5% and 10% on \$75 billion of U.S. products in retaliation. Like Trump's, the Chinese tariffs will be imposed in two batches — first on Sept. 1 and then on Dec. 15.

China will also go ahead with previously postponed import duties on U.S.-made autos and auto parts, the Finance Ministry announced. Trump tweets on Friday included one declaring: "Our great American companies are hereby ordered to immediately start looking for an alternative to China, including bringing... your companies HOME and making your products in the USA."

French, at the National Retail Federation, said it was "unrealistic for American retailers to move out of the world's second largest economy ... Our presence in China allows us to reach Chinese customers and develop overseas markets."

Jay Foreman, CEO of Basic Fun!, a Florida toy compa-

ny that imports from China, said Trump's demand to American companies was outrageous.

It was an "unprecedented statement for a president to make to private business when there is no national security issue involved," he said.

The 13-month-long trade feud between the U.S. and China has been rattling financial markets, disrupting international trade and weakening prospects for worldwide economic growth.

Washington accuses China of using predatory tactics — including outright theft of U.S. trade secrets — in an aggressive drive to turn itself into a world leader in cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence and electric cars.

Twelve rounds of talks have failed to break the impasse, though more negotiations are expected next month. Chinese leaders have offered to alter details of their policies but are resisting any deal that would require them to give up their aspirations to become a technological powerhouse.

The two countries are also deadlocked over how to enforce any agreement.

China's announced tariff hikes — and Trump's response — is the latest sign that both countries are digging in. □

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## Illinois patient's death may be first in US tied to vaping

By D. BABWIN / M. STOBBE

Associated Press

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Health officials said Friday that an Illinois patient who contracted a serious lung disease after vaping has died and that they consider it the first death in the United States linked to the smoking alternative that has become popular with teens and young adults.

The Illinois Department of Public Health the adult patient was hospitalized after falling ill following vaping, though it didn't give other information about the person, including the patient's name, age, hometown or date of death.

The state received the report of the death Thursday, said Dr. Jennifer Layden, the Illinois agency's chief medical officer.

Officials with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Friday that 193 people in 22 states have contracted severe respiratory illnesses after vaping. However, they said a clear-cut common cause

of the illnesses hasn't been identified and that they are being called "potential cases" that are still under investigation.

All of the sickened have been teens or adults who had used an electronic cigarette or some other kind of vaping device. Doctors say the illnesses resemble an inhalation injury, with the lungs apparently reacting to a caustic substance. So far, infectious diseases have been ruled out.

The illnesses have been reported since late June, but the total count has risen quickly in the past week. That may be partly because cases that weren't initially being linked to vaping have begun to be grouped that way.

Among the newest reports are two in Connecticut, four in Iowa and six in Ohio. Health officials are asking doctors and hospitals to tell state health officials about any possible vaping-related lung disease cases they encounter.

In its news release, the Illi-

nois agency said the number of people who contracted a respiratory illness after vaping had doubled in the past week, to 22.

"The severity of illness people are experiencing is alarming and we must get the word out that using e-cigarettes and vaping can be dangerous," IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike said in the release.

Electronic cigarettes have been described as a less dangerous alternative to regular cigarettes, but health officials have been worried about kids using them. Most of the concern has focused on nicotine, which health officials say is harmful to developing brains and might make kids more likely to take up cigarettes. But some vaping products have been found to contain other potentially harmful substances, including flavoring chemicals and oils used for vaping marijuana, experts say.

A number of the people who got sick had vaped

products containing THC,



In this Tuesday, April 10, 2018 photo, Marshfield High School Principal Robert Keuther displays vaping devices that were confiscated from students in such places as restrooms or hallways at the school in Marshfield, Mass.

Associated Press

the high-inducing ingredient in marijuana. CDC officials said they do not have a breakdown of how many of the sick people vaped THC.

The American Vaping Association, an advocacy group, issued a statement arguing that "tainted, black market THC products" are to blame. The group called on federal officials to clear nicotine vaping products of suspicion.

Health officials said they need to gather more information.

"Investigators haven't identified any specific product or compound that is linked to all of the cases," Ileana Arias, a CDC official who oversees non-infectious disease, said during a Friday call with reporters. She also said the sickened might be dealing with different illnesses that have similar symptoms. □

## North Carolina allows bar code ballots despite voter outcry

By EMERY P. DALESIO

Associated Press

**RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)** — North Carolina election officials on Friday certified bar code ballots for use in elections starting next year despite an outcry that they can't be trusted by voters uncertain their choices are accurately counted.

The State Board of Elections voted 3-2 to allow a voting-machine maker to sell equipment that digitizes votes into bar code data, which is then tallied by the company's counting machines. Almost two dozen speakers urged the elections board to reject bar code systems because voters can't read the bar codes to check that they're correct.

But Democratic board chairman Damon Circosta sided with two Republicans on the five-member panel, citing the risk of delay after touchscreen-only equipment is disallowed in December. New voting ma-



In this Friday, Aug. 16, 2019 photo, A man holds a ballot card with bar codes during a voting machine demonstration in Raleigh, N.C.

Associated Press

chines in about a quarter of the state's counties need to be replaced as primary elections loom in March. After hackers tried to access U.S. election systems in 2016, a study released last year by the combined National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine urged that elec-

tions use human-readable paper ballots that people can inspect and recount.

"The 2020 election is going to be very controversial. We need to make it a point to prove to the loser that he really lost," said John Brakey, an Arizona-based election transparency activist. "We could get very

dangerous in this country. I work hard to prevent that." People objecting to bar code ballots are "inconsistent at best" because they accept the technology when it tracks their grocery purchases, Republican board member Ken Raymond said.

But public confidence in accurately recorded votes is a bigger concern than whether a checkout scanner correctly totals groceries, elections board member Stella Anderson said.

"We have heard voters don't like this. Voters do not trust this, and that's their judgement to make," she said.

"Bar codes are not human-readable. The whole purpose of a paper ballot is to be able to recount or audit the voter's votes in a way independent of any possibly hacked or buggy computers."

The U.S. Senate Intelligence committee last month released a report concluding

all 50 states were targeted by foreign adversaries in 2016. The Russian government directed "extensive activity" against U.S. election systems ahead of the 2016 presidential election, said the committee chaired by Sen. Richard Burr, a North Carolina Republican.

Special Counsel Robert Mueller warned during a congressional hearing in July that Russian election interference was continuing even today.

The state panel authorized county elections boards to buy the challenged equipment marketed by Omaha, Nebraska-based Election Systems & Software.

Counties also could select from equipment made by Clear Ballot of Boston and Hart InterCivic of Austin, Texas.

North Carolina has spent about two years studying which voting machines to allow for use over the next decade or longer. □



In this Nov. 30, 2018 file photo, Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg sits with fellow Supreme Court justices for a group portrait at the Supreme Court Building in Washington.

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## Supreme Court: Ginsburg treated for tumor on pancreas

By JESSICA GRESKO and MARILYNN MARCHIONE  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has completed radiation therapy for a cancerous tumor on her pancreas and there is no evidence of the disease remaining, the Supreme Court said Friday. It is the fourth time that the 86-year-old justice has announced that she has been treated for cancer over the last two decades and follows lung cancer surgery in December that kept her away from the court for weeks. December's surgery was her first illness-related absence from the court since being appointed by President Bill Clinton in 1993 and prompted even closer attention to her health. As the court's oldest member, Ginsburg has been asked questions for years about her health and retirement plans. She has also in recent years attracted particularly enthusiastic fans as the leader of the liberal wing of the court, which includes four members appointed by Democratic presidents and five by Republicans. Both liberals and conservatives watch her health closely because it's understood the court would shift right for decades if President Donald Trump were to get the ability to nominate someone to replace her.

The court kept Ginsburg's latest cancer secret for three weeks, until she fin-

ished radiation treatment. Yet there is no obligation for justices to disclose details about their health, and Ginsburg has generally made more information available than some of her colleagues. Retired Justice Anthony Kennedy, for example, had a stent inserted to open a blocked artery in 2005 but the public only learned about it 10 months later when he returned to the hospital to have it replaced.

The Supreme Court said in a statement Friday that a routine blood test led to the detection of Ginsburg's tumor. A biopsy performed July 31 confirmed a "localized malignant tumor," and Ginsburg started outpatient radiation therapy Aug. 5. Ginsburg underwent three weeks of radiation therapy and as part of her treatment had a bile duct stent placed, the court said. Ginsburg "tolerated treatment well" and does not need any additional treatment but will continue to have periodic blood tests and scans, the statement said.

The tumor was "treated definitively and there is no evidence of disease elsewhere in the body," the court said.

The statement did not say if the new tumor is a recurrence of the pancreatic cancer Ginsburg was diagnosed with in 2009, or a new cancer that arose. She was also treated for colorectal cancer in 1999.

"It's certainly not unheard of for the cancer to come back," but it's a more dire situation if it's that rather than a new tumor that was found early enough for effective treatment, said Dr. Michael Pishvaian, a pancreatic specialist at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center who had no first-hand knowledge of Ginsburg's care.

Pancreatic tumors are usually treated with surgery, but she or her doctors may have chosen not to do that for various reasons, and radiation is a standard treatment if surgery is not done, Pishvaian said.

Dr. Alan Venook, a University of California, San Francisco, pancreatic cancer specialist who also has no direct knowledge of Ginsburg's case, said it's not possible to know much about her outlook without details from her doctors.

If it is a recurrence that took a decade to form, "that tells me it's not a very aggressive cancer," he said. If the cancer is truly limited to the pancreas, "it could have been managed perfectly well with radiation," he said.

The court said Ginsburg canceled an annual summer visit to Santa Fe but otherwise maintained an active schedule during treatment. She is scheduled to speak in Buffalo next week and at the Library of Congress National Book Festival in Washington at the end of the month. □

## Authorities probe Sacramento light rail crash, 27 injured

**SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)**

— An investigation was underway Friday to determine why a Sacramento light rail commuter train struck a maintenance train, injuring 27 people. The accident occurred around 9:40 p.m. Thursday and was initially believed to be a derailment, but Sacramento Regional Transit spokeswoman Devra Selenis confirmed

Friday that it was a crash. The maintenance train was not moving at the time, Selenis said in an email to The Associated Press.

"It's currently under investigation to determine the cause," she said.

There were 24 people on the Blue Line passenger train and three on the maintenance train.

Thirteen people were tak-

en to hospitals, one with moderate injuries and 12 with minor injuries, Selenis said.

Sacramento Fire Department spokesman Keith Wade said 14 other people were treated at the scene and released.

"We're very happy that no one lost their life and that no one was in critical condition," Wade told reporters late Thursday. □

## Lawyer calls ex-Peruvian president's U.S. detention 'inhumane'

By DAISY NGUYEN

Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —**

Former Peruvian President Alejandro Toledo has been kept in solitary confinement and only allowed to go outdoors once in the month he has been in U.S. custody while fighting extradition to his native country, his defense attorney said.

Federal Public Defender Graham Archer argued in court papers filed this month that Toledo should be released on bail because of "inhumane" conditions at a Northern California federal detention facility. Toledo is isolated from other inmates because of his high-profile case and has only been allowed to go to an exercise yard once, for 45 minutes, at Santa Rita Jail, according to Archer.

"The prospect of keeping Dr. Toledo, who has never been accused, much less convicted, of any act of violence and, indeed, has not been convicted of any crime at all, in such punitive conditions for what will likely be years of litigation is a special circumstance that verges on the unconscionable," Archer wrote.

Toledo was arrested July 16 at his San Francisco Bay Area home after the Peruvian government requested his extradition to stand trial on charges of influence peddling and money laundering. The charges stem from allegations that he took \$20 million in bribes from Odebrecht, a Brazilian company at the center of Latin America's biggest corruption scandal.

Toledo, who has denied wrongdoing, was Peru's president from 2001 to 2006. Prosecutors want him held without bond during extradition proceedings, arguing he is a significant flight risk and that there are no special circumstances to justify his release on bail. They said Toledo's supposed wealth, including a suitcase stuffed with \$40,000 in cash found during his arrest, and his international connections, could lead him to slip out of the country.



In this May 24, 2017 file photo, Peru's former President Alejandro Toledo makes an address at the United Nations in New York.

In court papers filed Friday, they said Toledo provided no evidence to support that he was suffering from solitary confinement. They also asserted that he has the financial means and motivation to flee, revealing that Toledo and his wife paid more than \$6,000 per month to rent a house in Menlo Park and that he tried to renew his Peruvian passport when it was due to expire in June. The defense countered that Toledo has been aware of the attempt to extradite him since February 2017 and has not tried to flee from California, where he resides as a permanent legal resident. His attorneys said Toledo and his wife have in fact run out of money.

"The Toledos were struggling and (his) mother-in-law gave them money to help cover their everyday living expenses," court papers said in reference to the suitcase with cash. Having seen their assets seized in Peru, the defense stated, "it is understandable that his wife felt the need to have cash available to pay their bills."

The defense also argued that he isn't a flight risk because he has deep ties to the Bay Area.

The revelations marked the latest chapter in what has been a stunning fall from grace for the man who

rose out of poverty to become Peru's first president with indigenous roots. He grew up shining shoes and selling lottery tickets

in northern Peru, one of 16 children, at least seven of whom did not survive to adulthood. His life took an unexpected turn when he

Associated Press

met two American Peace Corps volunteers. With their help, he applied for and won a scholarship to the University of San Francisco. He went on to earn graduate degrees at Stanford University. His jovial nature, ease with the masses and opposition to strongman Alberto Fujimori helped him clinch the presidency in 2001. He proudly called himself "El Cholo" — a term referring to his indigenous ancestry.

After his presidency ended, Toledo returned to Stanford as a visiting scholar and research fellow and was working on a book.

Since his arrest, several friends including four Stanford professors and the former Peace Corps volunteers offered money and property to secure his release from custody.

A bond hearing will be held in Toledo's case on Aug. 29. □



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## Plan allows drilling, grazing near national monument in Utah

By BRADY McCOMBS

Associated Press

**SALT LAKE CITY (AP) —** A new U.S. government management plan unveiled Friday clears the way for coal mining and oil and gas drilling on land that used to be off limits as part of a sprawling national monument in Utah before President Donald Trump downsized the protected area two years ago.

The plan released by the Bureau of Land Management would also open more lands to cattle grazing and recreation and acknowledges there could be "adverse effects" on land and resources in the monument.

But while allowing more activities, the plan would also add a few safeguards for the cliffs, canyons, waterfalls and arches still inside Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument that weren't in a proposed plan issued last year.

Among them are opening fewer acres to ATVs and cancelling a plan that would have allowed people to collect some non-dinosaur fossils in certain areas.

The BLM says no land will be sold from the 1,345 square miles (3,488 square kilometers) that were cut from what had been the 3,000 square miles (7,770 square kilometers) of the monument.

Harry Barber, acting



This July 9, 2017 file photo, shows a view of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah.

Associated Press

manager of the national monument, told The Associated Press the plan reflects changes made after considering input from the public and considering an assessment that there are enough protections already in place.

"There are people who graze livestock, people that like to hunt, people that like to hike, people that like to trail run," said Barber, who has worked at the monument since it was created. "We're trying to be fair."

The plan is expected to go into effect after a public review period.

The monument has seen a 63% increase in visitors over the past decade, host-

ing 1.1 million people from October 2017 through September 2018, according to U.S. government figures.

Conservation and paleontology groups have filed ongoing lawsuits to stop the downsizing.

They say the new plan lacks adequate protections for the land and reiterated their concern that the years spent creating the plan were a waste of taxpayer resources because the lawsuits remain unresolved.

Steve Bloch, legal director at the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance conservation group, said it's unforgivable to cut the monument in half and downgrade the

excluded lands to what he calls "garden variety public lands."

"Grand Staircase-Escalante is one of the nation's public land crown jewels and from the outset the Trump administration was hell-bent on destroying this place," Bloch said.

The allowance for coal, oil and gas extraction on the lands cut was expected as the Trump administration carried out a "reckless" plan to undo protections on pristine lands, said Heidi McIntosh, managing attorney of Earthjustice's Rocky Mountains office.

"First, they ripped in half and now they are officially opening the door to all

kinds of destructive activities," she said. "It's really a giveaway to the fossil fuel industry."

Barber stressed that protections will remain even though the lands are no longer within the monument.

"It's not a free-for-all," Barber said. "That seems to be what I hear a lot, people feeling like now anybody can go out and do anything they want to do on these lands. But, they need to realize that we still have our rules and policies."

But an economic analysis estimates coal production could lead to \$208 million in annual revenues and \$16.6 million in royalties for the U.S. government.

Oil and gas wells in that area could produce \$4.1 million in annual revenues, it says.

Barber said he's excited that competitive events would be allowed in the monument under the BLM plan.

A popular trail running race called the Grand to Grand Ultra has wanted to extend its course through parts of the monument and will now be able to seek permission, he said.

President Bill Clinton created the monument in 1996 using the Antiquities Act, which sets guidelines calling for the "smallest area compatible with proper care and management" of artifacts to be protected. □

## West Virginia AG sues opioid makers, says they hid risks

**CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) —**

West Virginia's top prosecutor filed suits Friday against the major opioid makers Johnson & Johnson and Teva Pharmaceuticals USA for misrepresenting the risks of their painkilling drugs.

The separate suits filed in Boone County, West Virginia, by Attorney General Patrick Morrisey accuse the drugmakers of violating the state's Consumer Credit and Protection Act and seek monetary penalties. Johnson & Johnson subsidiary Janssen Pharmaceuticals and Teva sister company Cephalon are also

named as defendants. Morrisey says the companies engaged in strategic campaigns to deceive prescribers.

Teva told doctors that patients could take increasingly strong opioids without disclosing the rising risk of addiction, according to the lawsuit.

The company disguised its marketing efforts through third-party advocates and professional associations, Morrisey said.

Johnson & Johnson, through Janssen, is also accused of downplaying the dangers of painkillers, dis-

tributing patient education guides that sought to dispel the "myth" that opioids are addictive.

West Virginia, which has the nation's highest opioid overdose rate, has been the site of many suits against the industry.

About 30 hospitals in the state and affiliates in Kentucky banded together in April to sue some of the largest opioid companies, saying they flooded Appalachia with powerful painkillers and forced medical centers to deal with the financial repercussions.

In May, West Virginia

reached a \$37 million settlement with the drug distributor McKesson over a lawsuit that accused the company of sending millions of suspicious painkiller orders to the state as it was being ravaged by the opioid epidemic. The company admitted no wrongdoing.

The state has received about \$84 million through settlements with companies in opioid lawsuits, according to the attorney general's office.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says opioids were involved

in more than 47,000 deaths in both 2017 and 2018. More than 2,000 state, local and tribal governments have filed similar claims seeking to hold the drug industry accountable for the opioid crisis.

Most of suits have been consolidated under a federal judge in Cleveland.

West Virginia University President Gordon Gee and former Ohio Gov. John Kasich on Thursday announced they were creating a non-profit to steer cash from any national opioid settlement to hospitals, instead of local and state governments. □

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## Work on more border wall starts in Arizona, New Mexico

By CEDAR ATTANASIO and  
ASTRID GALVAN  
Associated Press

SANTA TERESA, N.M. (AP) —

Work crews in Arizona and New Mexico forged ahead Friday with construction of taller border fencing funded through a national emergency declaration by President Donald Trump. The work on his hallmark campaign promise involves mostly replacement fencing along a 46-mile stretch of desert west of Santa Teresa, New Mexico, and on 2 miles of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in Arizona.

At the New Mexico site, about 20 workers placed rebar frames for concrete footers along the path of the wall.

A 50-foot crane towered over the site, standing out on the treeless brushland and cracked washes that stretch for miles in every direction.

Workers broke ground between Columbus and Santa Teresa — small towns near ports of entry along the border between New Mexico and the state of Chihuahua, Mexico.

In Arizona, crews were installing 30-foot (9-meter) steel fencing to replace older barriers next to a border crossing known as Lukeville Port of Entry.

Both projects are being funded with money initially allocated to the Defense Department that was redirected by Trump's executive order.

Use of the money was previously frozen by lower courts while a lawsuit proceeded. Last month, however,



Workers break ground on new border wall construction about 20 miles west of Santa Teresa, New Mexico, Aug. 23, 2019.

the U.S. Supreme Court cleared the way for the use of about \$2.5 billion.

A border wall was a key-stone of the president's 2016 election campaign, but Congress has resisted funding all of it. This year it allocated \$1.4 billion, but the president wanted much more.

The administration has awarded \$2.8 billion in contracts for barriers covering 247 miles (390 kilometers), with all but 17 miles (27 kilometers) of that to replace existing barriers instead of expanding coverage.

Various forms of barriers already exist along 654 miles (1,046 kilometers) — about a third — of the border.

The construction comes as immigrant apprehensions have fallen sharply over the past two months due to the summer heat and a clamp

down in Mexico.

Tens of thousands of people have come to the U.S. over the past year. Most are Central American families with children who turn themselves in to agents instead of trying to dodge them.

Environmentalists have sued over some of the construction contracts for the fencing, saying the government unlawfully waived dozens of laws so it could build on protected lands. Conservationists say a wall

— and its construction — would be detrimental to wildlife habitat and would block the migration of animals such as bighorn sheep and wolves.

Two cases are pending in U.S. courts.

"It's astonishing and sad to see Trump's border wall being built through the most spectacular Sonoran desert ecosystem on the planet," Laiken Jordahl, borderlands campaigner with the Center for Biological Diversity, said Thursday.

Associated Press

Jordahl hoped the courts would step in to protect Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument.

The vast park is known for its oddly shaped cactuses that resemble organ pipes and for its many saguaros. Signs all over the park warn visitors that they might encounter smuggling activity. Until five years ago, large swaths of the park were closed to the public due to dangerous conditions and following the 2002 shooting death of Kris Eggle, a park ranger who died while pursuing suspected drug cartel members.

Groundbreaking occurred Thursday along the portion of existing fencing that stretches west from Lukeville Port of Entry, Border Patrol spokesman Jesus Vasavilbaso said.

Many Arizona residents use the crossing on their way to Rocky Point, a beach destination in Mexico.

Construction is expected to take about 45 days. The government then plans to tackle two other projects in Arizona, including nearly 40 miles (64.4 kilometers) of fencing in other parts of the national monument and areas of Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge and San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area. □

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## Boris Johnson prepares to take his place on world stage

By DANICA KIRKA

Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, who has endeavored to lead his country since he was a boy, will get his first moment on the world stage in his new role at the Group of Seven summit in France this weekend. And he will be at pains to ensure it won't be his last.

The man who has said his life's ambition as a child was to be "world king" could be the shortest-serving prime minister in British history if he fails in his high-stakes gambit to force the European Union to reopen Brexit talks.

As Johnson prepares to meet with world leaders, including U.S. President Donald Trump, at the seaside resort of Biarritz, opponents at home are plotting to bring him down with a no-confidence vote after Parliament returns from its summer recess next month. Johnson, 55, who took power last month, is betting his political future on a promise to lead Britain out of the EU on Oct. 31, with or without an agreement. He says the threat of a no-deal Brexit is the only way to force the EU into making concessions.

But the G7 summit comes at the end of a week when Johnson has had to face the reality that the EU isn't blinking despite his efforts to keep talking up the potential for a no-deal Brexit. That leaves Johnson stuck in a political vise at home. While the no-deal pledge has helped Johnson win the backing of hardliners



French President Emmanuel Macron welcomes Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson at the Elysee Palace, Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019 in Paris.

in his Conservative Party, they could withdraw their support if the newly minted prime minister fails to deliver. At the same time, opposition leaders claim a no-deal approach is a reckless policy that will lead to shortages of food, medicine and fuel, damaging the economy and hurting the country's poorest people. "The calculation for the Conservative Party still is: Are the electoral consequences of crashing out without a deal going to be worse than the electoral consequences of not delivering Brexit by the 31st of October?" said Tim Bale, a professor of politics at London Queen Mary University. "It's a calculation on which everything turns."

The Brexit battle has already claimed two prime ministers in a country that

is deeply divided over the nature of its ties to Europe. David Cameron resigned in June 2016, the day after Britain narrowly voted in favor of leaving the EU. His successor, Theresa May, was forced to step down last month after Parliament rejected her withdrawal deal three times.

The main sticking point in that deal was the so-called Irish backstop, designed to prevent the return of customs checks on the border between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, which is part of the United Kingdom. There are concerns the backstop would keep Britain tied to the EU indefinitely and threaten the integrity of the U.K. because it would treat Northern Ireland differently from the rest of the country. Johnson has demanded

that the EU scrap checkpoints and accept that technology or other "alternative methods" can be used to monitor the border. After meeting with Johnson this week, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron said they were open to discussing alternatives but stressed that they considered the backstop "indispensable" to ensuring the Irish peace process and protecting the integrity of the European single market, which allows free trade of goods and services for 500 million people.

Johnson left the meetings saying France and Germany are "crucial friends and partners of the U.K.," and spin doctors sought to capitalize on warm receptions offered by two pivotal EU members.

Associated Press

"Let's get Brexit done, sensibly and pragmatically and in the interests of both sides," Johnson tweeted. "Let's get on with deepening and intensifying the friendship and the partnership between our nations." The markets responded to the merest glimmer that a deal — some sort of deal — might still take place. The pound rose \$1.22, up from the week's low of \$1.20. Smiles only go so far. Back in Brussels, EU officials were quick to ask what might be offered that had not been proposed in the past two years. And while Johnson's team was streaming chummy pictures of his meetings in France and Germany, both Merkel and Macron were stressing that the matter was not just up to them. Other EU nations also would have to agree.

Johnson and his supporters claim that one of the most important benefits of leaving the EU is that it will allow Britain to negotiate its own trade deals with countries, more than offsetting any decline in trade with the EU. The biggest prize would be a free-trade agreement with the U.S.

Johnson plans to meet with Trump in Biarritz as he tries to cement such a deal. Trump tweeted this week that he had already had a "great discussion" with Johnson.

Time is of the essence for Johnson. Not only does he have an Oct. 31 deadline, but Parliament returns in early September. He clings to power with a majority of one vote. But the final poker hand has not yet been played. □



Spanish and French police officers stand guard at the border between Hendaye and Irún to monitor protesters against the G-7 summit in nearby Biarritz, France Friday, Aug. 23, 2019.

Associated Press

## Security squeeze in French resort for G-7 leaders' summit

Associated Press

**BIARRITZ, France (AP)** — Security is getting tighter in the southern French beach resort of Biarritz ahead of the G-7 leaders' summit beginning this weekend. The airport and train station are closing down Friday afternoon and residents used to bustle at the height of summer vacations say

the streets are empty.

The city center is almost deserted, and the seaside around the casino where leaders will meet is under lockdown.

Cars are thoroughly checked and tourists can no longer access their usual haunts.

Philippe Haguet says the gift shop he owns has been

empty for the past two days.

Leaders of the Group of Seven countries arrive on Saturday to discuss issues including the struggling global economy and climate change until Monday. They include the United States, Germany, Japan, Britain, France, Canada and Italy. □

## UN: Possible to eradicate malaria, but probably not soon

By MARIA CHENG  
AP Medical Writer

**LONDON (AP)** — The World Health Organization says it's theoretically possible to wipe out malaria, but probably not with the imperfect vaccine and other control methods being used at the moment.

Dr. Pedro Alonso, the U.N. health agency's global malaria director, said WHO is "unequivocally in favor" of eradication, but that major questions about its feasibility remain. In a press briefing on Thursday, Alonso acknowledged that "with the tools we have today, it is most unlikely eradication will be achieved."

Alonso was presenting the results of a WHO-commissioned report evaluating if eradicating malaria should be pursued. He said the experts concluded lingering uncertainties meant they were unable to formulate a clear strategy and thus, couldn't propose a definitive timeline or cost estimate for eradication.

WHO has long grappled with the idea of erasing malaria from the planet. An eradication campaign was first attempted in 1955 before being abandoned more than a dozen years



In this Oct. 30, 2009 file photo, a mother holds her baby receiving a new malaria vaccine as part of a trial at the Walter Reed Project Research Center in Kombewa in Western Kenya.

Associated Press

later. For decades, health officials were chastened from even discussing eradication — until the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation threw its considerable resources behind the idea. Smallpox is the only human disease to ever have been eradicated. In 1988, WHO and partners began a global campaign that aimed to wipe out polio by 2000. Despite numerous effective vaccines and bil-

lions of invested dollars, efforts have stalled in recent years and officials have repeatedly missed eradication targets.

Although several African countries began immunizing children against malaria in national programs this year, the shot only protects about one third of children who get it. The parasitic disease kills about 435,000 people every year, mostly children in Africa.

"An effective vaccine is something we desperately need if we're ever going to get malaria under control and we just don't have it," said Alister Craig, dean of biological sciences at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

A previous trial showed the vaccine was about 30% effective in children who got four doses, but that protection waned over time.

Craig also raised concerns

about whether malaria programs would be able to raise the billions needed given other competing eradication campaigns, like those for polio, guinea worm and lymphatic filariasis.

"Should we really be pushing for malaria or should we concentrate on getting some of those other diseases out of the way first?" he asked.

Other experts agreed that eradicating malaria in the coming years seems aspirational.

"It's a long game and there will be many bumps on the road," said Sian Clarke, co-director of the malaria center at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Still, Clarke said that eradication might only be achieved if there is a sense of urgency, given how malaria spreads; the parasitic disease is transmitted to people by mosquitoes.

"The longer it takes, the more opportunity there is for the parasite to evolve," she said. "There will be a lot of pressure on the parasite to evolve a mechanism of survival, so this is something that if it's to be done, should be done relatively quickly." □

## As Malta disembarks migrants more charity-govt clashes loom

By ARITZ PARRA  
Associated Press

**MADRID (AP)** — Malta agreed Friday to disembark 356 migrants who were trapped for two weeks on a rescue ship in the central Mediterranean, capping a week of standoffs between charities and governments that have exposed in dramatic ways Europe's inability to deal with migration from Africa.

The Maltese armed forces will be taking ashore the passengers from the Ocean Viking before they are distributed to France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Portugal and Romania, the prime minister of Malta, Joseph Muscat, announced on Friday in a series of tweets.

It was not immediately clear why the transfer to



Rescued migrants sleep on the Ocean Viking, operated by SOS Mediterranee and MSF, as they cruise in the Mediterranean Sea, in the early hours of Friday, Aug. 23, 2019.

Associated Press

military vessels would happen in international waters and the charity boat wasn't allowed to directly take the migrants to the port.

SOS Mediterranee and Doctors Without Borders,

the two charities running the Norwegian-flagged ship, had said that requests for docking had been previously denied by Malta and ignored by Italy. Jay Berger, the operations

manager of Doctors Without Borders on board the Ocean Viking, welcomed Malta's decision but questioned why it took so long, and called for permanent European solutions to taking in rescued migrants.

"We are relieved that the long ordeal for the 356 people on board with us is finally over, but was it necessary to keep them waiting for two weeks of torment?" Berger said in a statement. "This is about people who have fled desperate conditions in their homelands and have survived the horrific violence in Libya."

Their ordeal is the latest in a campaign against sea rescues that has disrupted the operations of at least 19 ships since Italy's hard-line Interior Minister Matteo Salvini ordered the closure

of the country's ports to aid groups.

Salvini and other Europeans blame the charities for aiding human trafficking mafias that operate off the Libyan coast. Activists and volunteers have been probed or prosecuted, while some governments have imposed administrative obstacles to their ships. The Spanish government of Pedro Sánchez, a Socialist, has threatened hefty fines if the Open Arms aid group actively conducts search and rescue missions without being asked to do so.

NGOs and activists say they are being demonized, mostly by populist and far-right politicians hungry for votes. They say they are filling a vacuum created by the inaction of the EU and its member states. □

# West, Central Africa violence closes 9,000 schools

By CARLEY PETESCH

Associated Press

**DAKAR, Senegal (AP)** — Fourteen-year-old Hussaini said he first heard screaming. Then people fired guns, shooting at and killing at least one of his teachers in his northern Burkina Faso village.

It's been more than a year since Hussaini has been to school.

"I used to love school, to read, to count and to play during recess," the boy, identified only by his first name, told the United Nations Children's Agency. He is not alone.

More than 9,000 schools have closed and more than 1.9 million children in West and Central Africa have been forced out of school because of increasing violence in the region and attacks specifically targeting education facilities, UNICEF said Friday, saying it's triple the amount closed in 2017. Attacks on schools in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger, where an Islamic extremist insurgency has grown, have doubled in the past two years, the agency said in its report, adding that those countries have seen a six-fold increase in school closures because of the violence.

"In many conflicts in this region, education is at the



In this photo provided by UNICEF and taken on April 24, 2019, Boureima Tall, a displaced teacher at the temporary learning space teaches numbers in front of his class in Socoura, Mali.

Associated Press

heart of the issue of these disputes. There is a mistrust toward what is perceived as western style education, so that means it is deliberately attacked," said an author of the report and UNICEF Johannesburg-based Chief of Communications Patsy Nakell. "These are regions that are already deprived in education and access to education for girls in particular."

School is also the one place where children of conflict still have joy and are challenged to learn new things,

said Nakell who noted the trend as catastrophic. More than 2,000 schools are closed in Burkina Faso, along with more than 900 in Mali, due to an increase in violence across both countries, UNICEF said. In April 2017, Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger had 512 schools closed and now they have a combined 3,005 since June 2019, the agency said. Islamic extremists in the region have spread attacks further and increased attacks along the border regions of these nations.

Insecurity in Cameroon's Anglophone regions has left more than 4,400 schools forcibly closed since 2017, UNICEF said. In Central African Republic, there was a 20 percent increase in attacks on schools, UNICEF said.

UNICEF has called on governments, armed forces, the international community and those who are a part of the conflict to "take concerted action to stop attacks and threats against schools, students, teachers and other school person-

nel in West and Central Africa - and to support quality learning for every child in the region."

Many of the gains that were made in these regions are now at risk, and more than 70 percent of emergency education programs are underfunded, said Nakell.

"With more than 40 million 6 to 14-year-old children missing out on their right to education in West and Central Africa, it is crucial that governments and their partners work to diversify available options for quality education," said UNICEF Regional Director for West and Central Africa Marie-Pierre Poirier. "Culturally suitable models with innovative, inclusive and flexible approaches, which meet quality learning standards, can help reach many children, especially in situations of conflict."

UNICEF has worked with authorities to support what they call alternative learning opportunities. In Nigeria for example, the organization said basic education is being introduced into Quranic schools. In Burkina Faso and Cameroon, lessons are being broadcast, and children who have never been to school in Burkina Faso, and Congo can also now learn via radio. □

## Syria retakes territory in NW held by rebels since 2012

By ZEINA KARAM

Associated Press

**BEIRUT (AP)** — Syrian President Bashar Assad's troops seized control of a string of villages in the northern countryside of Hama province, completing their takeover of the formerly rebel-held region just south of Idlib province for the first time since 2012, the Syrian army and a war monitoring group said Friday.

The army said troops seized the villages of Latamneh, Latmeen, Kfar Zeita and La-haya, as well as the village of Morek, where Turkey maintains an observation post, pressing ahead its offensive toward Idlib.

The army advance represents the latest in a series of



This photo provided by the Syrian Civil Defense White Helmets, shows a Civil Defense worker searching for victims from under the rubble of a destroyed building that was hit by airstrikes in the northern town of Maaret al-Numan, in Idlib province, Syria, Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019.

Associated Press

losses for rebels who have, for eight years, fought to topple Assad. It leaves his

forces poised to focus on reclaiming Idlib province, near the border with Tur-

key, the last territory controlled by the opposition.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights also reported Friday that government troops were in control of the entire northern Hama countryside after capturing a series of towns and villages. Syrian TV showed troops walking freely inside these villages. An army statement said the military was removing mines and booby-traps left behind by the insurgents.

The fate of Turkish troops manning the observation post wasn't immediately clear. Since a deal with Russia last year, Turkey has maintained 12 such posts in and around Idlib province. Turkey is a strong backer of

the Syrian opposition and rebels fighting Assad's forces, while Russia supports Assad's government.

The Observatory said it was not clear whether there were any Turkish soldiers remaining in the Morek observation post or whether they had withdrawn from the area overnight.

He appealed for a political solution to the long-running Syria crisis that would put an end to more displacement and allow for the safe return of Syrian refugees. Turkey hosts around 3.6 million Syrian refugees and is concerned that the fighting in Idlib is causing a surge of displacement toward its sealed border with Syria. □



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## Putin orders Russia to respond after US missile test

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — President Vladimir Putin ordered the Russian military on Friday to work out a quid pro quo response after the test of a new U.S. missile banned under a now-defunct arms treaty.

In Sunday's test, a modified ground-launched version of a U.S. Navy Tomahawk cruise missile accurately struck its target more than 500 kilometers (310 miles) away. The test came after Moscow and Washington withdrew from the 1987 Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty.

Speaking at a meeting of his Security Council, Putin charged that the U.S. waged a "propaganda campaign" alleging Russian breaches of the pact to "untie its hands to deploy the previously banned missiles in different parts of the world."

He ordered the Defense Ministry and other agencies to "take comprehen-



Russian President Vladimir Putin speaks at a meeting with members of the Security Council in the Kremlin in Moscow, Russia, Friday, Aug. 23, 2019.

sive measures to prepare a symmetrical answer."

The U.S. said it withdrew from the treaty because of Russian violations, a claim that Moscow has denied.

In an interview this week with Fox News, Defense Secretary Mark Esper as-

serted that the Russian cruise missiles Washington has long claimed were a violation of the now-defunct Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces, or INF, treaty, might be armed with nuclear warheads.

"Right now Russia has pos-

sibly nuclear-tipped cruise - INF-range cruise missiles facing toward Europe, and that, that's not a good thing," Esper said. The Russian leader noted that Sunday's test was performed from a launcher similar to those deployed at a U.S.

Associated Press

missile defense site in Romania. He argued that the Romanian facility and a prospective similar site in Poland could also be loaded with missiles intended to hit ground targets instead of interceptors. Putin has previously pledged that Russia wouldn't deploy the missiles previously banned by the INF Treaty to any area before the U.S. does that first, but he noted Friday that the use of the universal launcher means that a covert deployment is possible. "How would we know what they will deploy in Romania and Poland — missile defense systems or strike missile systems with a significant range?" Putin said. Russia long has charged that the U.S. launchers loaded with missile defense interceptors could be used for firing surface-to-surface missiles. Putin said that Sunday's test has proven that the U.S. denials have been false. "It's indisputable now," the Russian leader said. □

## Australia, Vietnam concerned about China actions in sea row

Associated Press

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — Australia and Vietnam on Friday expressed serious concern over tensions in the disputed South China Sea, where Hanoi says China's gas survey ship has infringed on its territory and has disrupted Vietnam's exploration activities.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison met in Hanoi with his counterpart Nguyen Xuan Phuc and both leaders called for respect of international law and freedom of navigation.

Earlier the United States said it was deeply concerned that China is continuing to interfere with Vietnam's longstanding oil and gas activities in Vietnam's ex-



Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, left, and his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Xuan Phuc pose for a photo during a welcome ceremony at the Presidential Palace in Hanoi, Vietnam, Friday, Aug. 23, 2019.

Associated Press

clusive economic zone. China claims the South China Sea virtually in its en-

tirety and has deployed a survey vessel with armed escorts into waters off Viet-

nam, ignoring Hanoi's calls to leave the area.

"(We all need to uphold) principles that relate to freedom of navigation, freedom of overfly, ensuring that nations can pursue and develop the opportunities that exist within their EEZ and within their sea boundaries, and they can go about that business in a way that is uninhabited and supported and upheld by the regional architecture and the rule of law that support that free conduct of activities," Morrison told reporters. Phuc said that the countries were united in their position on the South China Sea, where China has rattled smaller neighbors by constructing

seven man-made islands in the disputed waters and equipped them with military runways and outposts. Morrison and Phuc stopped short of explicitly naming China. "I am not here to make accusations or do anything of that nature. We do not take sides," Morrison said. Both he and Phuc urged all parties to refrain from the threat or use of force in settling disputes in accordance with international law.

Morrison said he didn't want to agree or disagree with the U.S., stressing that Australia's position was consistent. "We are carefully calibrated with what we say but most important, respectful," he said. □

## Venezuela opposition leader vows to shun early election

By FABIOLA SANCHEZ

SCOTT SMITH

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaidó said Friday that opponents of President Nicolás Maduro won't participate in any early legislative elections he calls amid a protracted power struggle.

Guaidó said in an interview with The Associated Press that it would be a "farce" to participate in any election with the Maduro government still in control of the country.

The man recognized by the U.S. as Venezuela's rightful leader also said he plans to keep the title of acting president even after his one-year term as leader of the National Assembly ends in the new year.

"We are very clear that we're going to continue until the point that elections in Venezuela are in reality free," he said, adding that there are signs Maduro's government is weakening as it resorts to torturing opponents while growing isolated from its people and the international community.

Socialist party chief Diosdado Cabello, a key Maduro ally, has said that elections for the National Assembly



**Venezuela's National Assembly President and self proclaimed interim President Juan Guaidó speaks during a interview with the Associated Press in Caracas, Venezuela, Friday, Aug. 23, 2019.**

Associated Press

— the most important opposition-dominated institution in the country — could be held in January or earlier. The legislature's five-year term is set to end in December 2020 and elections are traditionally held in the last month of its term. Elections will be held "soon," Cabello said. "Sooner than people think."

Guaidó, 36, launched a campaign to overthrow Maduro upon being named head of the Na-

tional Assembly earlier this year. He quickly won recognition from more than 50 foreign governments, led by the Trump administration. They consider the socialist leader's election last year a fraud in large part because leading opposition parties and candidates were banned from running. They argued that the presidency should fall to the head of congress. However, Maduro refuses to budge from power with

backing from the Venezuelan military and international allies such as Cuba, Russia, China and Turkey. The late President Hugo Chavez's hand-picked successor often calls Guaidó a puppet of a U.S. government bent on stealing Venezuela's vast oil resources. Many saw negotiations hosted by Norway on the Caribbean island of Barbados between the Maduro government and its opposition as Venezuela's best

chance at resolving the crisis. But the U.S. unveiled a new round of harsh sanctions this month, which prompted Maduro to pull out.

As the political and economic crisis deepens, an estimated 4 million Venezuelans have fled the country since 2015 seeking relief from instability and shortages of food and medicine. Opponents view moving up the vote as a way to take control of the last major institution not held by the ruling party, accusing the government of rigging the election system.

"That's not an election," Guaidó said. "It's a new bunker for them in an attempt to justify all the bad things they've done politically in the past."

Guaidó, however, says he remains upbeat for the possibility of change, and believes Maduro's government will soon return to negotiations hosted by Norway, because it has no other options.

He reiterated that "all strategies are necessary" for change and said the opposition was "absolutely informed" of contacts between the U.S. and Maduro government recently reported by The Associated Press. □

## Mexico sees jungle lakes evaporate amid lower rainfall

By MARK STEVENSON

Associated Press

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — Some of the mystical blue-green lakes of the Lacandon jungle in southern Mexico are drying up this year, the result of what experts say is an extended drought and rising temperatures in the region. The Metzabok lake, which normally covers 220 acres (89 hectares), dried up completely this month, leaving cracked mud where the translucent waters normally reflect the surrounding jungle and Lacandon Indians travel by canoe.

About 350 Lacandones, an indigenous group that still uses traditional dress of long hair and white cotton tunics, depend on tour-



**In this photo provided by Mexico's National Commission for Protected Nature Areas, the diminishing waters of the Metzabok Lagoon are seen amidst its drying lake bed, in the Lacandon jungle of Chiapas State in southern Mexico, in the first half of August, 2019.**

Associated Press

ism, fish and water from the lake and 20 other jungle lagoons nearby for their livelihood. In recent days they worked with biologists to capture and transfer crocodiles, fish and turtles from

the dried-up lake to those nearby that still have water. The area is part of a nature preserve known as Nahá-Metzabok, and the Lacandones have preserved the surrounding jungle for

decades by avoiding the slash-and-burn agriculture and cattle ranching. Some of the older Lacandones remember that the Metzabok lake (the name means "The god of thunder" in the Maya language) had dried up once ago, in the 1950s.

But experts worry that such episodes will become more frequent as rainfall declines and peak temperatures rise in the area, located just a few dozen miles from the Guatemalan border.

Mexico's National Water Commission lists most of the Lacandon jungle as being in a "moderate drought" situation, but some areas whose waters normally feed the lagoons are listed as "severe to extreme"

drought. Since the jungle lakes are fed by groundwater flows, not rivers, the situation may take some time to recover. But it is not just Metzabok lake that has suffered. Adrián Méndez Barrera, a biologist who serves as regional director for Mexico's National Commission for Protected Nature Areas, said he knows of six lagoons outside the nature reserve that have dried up. "Rainfall over the last four years has been down by about 30%," Méndez Barrera said. "On the other hand, we have seen average maximum temperatures rise from 30 degrees to 34 degrees (86 to 93 Fahrenheit). These two factors have a combined effect." □

# LOCAL



## "There's a whole host of species on the bite"



By Joris Zantvoort

ORANJESTAD— Still wondering where to go fishing this summer? You're in luck! After you see what Aruba's got in store, your summer fishing getaway will be one step closer to perfection. With temperatures stuck at 91 °F, summer in Aruba has plenty of heat to offer. This place boasts a lot more than good weather, mind you, and fishing's pretty much on top of the list!

In August, there's a whole host of species on the bite. The reefs are full of big Mahi Mahi and King Mackerel. Wahoo are always good in these parts, and the local guides are experts in catching them. Further offshore, fishing for Blue and White Marlin starts heating up. Be sure to book a full day if you want a chance to catch one of these monsters.

If you'd like to try some fly fishing, however, you've chosen the right time to do it. The flats are teeming with Snook and baby Tarpon – all you have to do is catch them. There are a number of experienced fly fishing guides on the island, so if you were looking to improve your skills, these guys will be happy to teach you.□

### Captain of the Month

Captain Marcelino aboard Sunrise Charters has had great success fishing the reefs recently. Mahi Mahi and Albacore Tuna seem to be regulars on the Captain's boat. He's even caught a few Barracuda, all on a half day outing!

A true local expert, Marcelino has been fishing since the age of 12. Coming from a long line of fishermen, the Captain enjoys showing newbies how to fish. Marcelino's also an accomplished angling competitor, with all-tackle fishing tournament wins under his belt.

Marcelino fishes from his Punta Bravo (Downeast), originally built in 2004. Powered by a 285HP Volvo Pent engine this pristine boat has a maximum cruising speed of 18 knots. You'll find all the amenities you need on board. There's a fighting chair, and enclosed toilet, an ice box and three bunk beds if you want to rest.

You'll have all the gear you'll need on board. For longer trips, the Captain will prepare snacks and drinks for you, as well. The crew will let you keep a third of the catch, which they will clean and fillet for you. Make sure to ask the Captain for a few restaurant recommendations. Cooking your catch in an Aruban restaurant is the perfect way to end your angling adventure!



Joris Zantvoort is Dutch and a writer at Fisherbooker.com. He publishes a monthly fishing report for Aruba Today. The company works with 17 captains in Aruba that help him create this report containing information like: What is currently in the water? What can you catch? Also amazing pictures are being shared and part of the column shows the Captain of the Month.



# Disaster relief training for Defense in the Caribbean



**SAVANETA** — We all still have vivid memories of the devastating force of hurricane Irma. To stay on top of our game when it comes to providing humanitarian aid, Defense is organizing Exercise Caribbean Coast. Ensuring a good crisis communication structure and

maintaining public order and safety in a natural disaster are two of the key elements that will be addressed during the exercise. This year, Caribbean Coast will be held from 9 to 19 September on Sint Maarten, Saba, Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Curaçao.

Caribbean Coast is a Dutch exercise, involving the participation of the Royal Netherlands Navy (RNLN), the Royal Netherlands Air Force (RNLAF) and the Royal Netherlands Army (RNLA). Four naval vessels will join the exercise: HNLMS Snellius, HNLMS Groningen, HNLMS Pelikaan and HNLMS Johan de Witt. The amphibious transport ship HNLMS Johan de Witt will leave on 26 August for the transatlantic crossing from Den Helder. The other vessels are already in the area. The RNLAF will participate with three helicopters and the RNLA will send supporting engineer, medical and CIMIC units. A total of over 700 Dutch military personnel will participate, together with French and German military personnel.

During Caribbean Coast, military personnel will train in the evacuation of civilians in distress, making the affected area accessible, maintaining public order and safety and providing immediate emergency relief to victims of natural disasters.

Hurricane Irma underlined



the importance of being well-prepared for hurricanes and other natural disasters. Defence personnel train for these situations so that they can provide effective assistance to Dutch citizens in a crisis situation. Every four years, Defence organises a large-scale humanitarian exercise in the Caribbean, the location chosen deliberately – during the hurricane season – to ensure that the situation is as realistic as possible. Military personnel therefore exercise on different islands, together with local and civil authorities. □

## Thomas and Judy Iwankow honored as Goodwill Ambassadors

**EAGLE BEACH** — Recently, Darline de Cuba had the great pleasure to honor loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba as Distinguished Visitor at their home away from home. The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20-35 and more consecutive years.

The honorees were: James & Barbara Nemecek resident of Sellersville Pennsylvania. The couple loves coming to the island for the friendly people, great weather and very relaxing atmosphere.

The event which commemorates their 20th consecutive visit to the island was held at the Renaissance Ocean Suites. De Cuba together with representatives of the Resort, Mr. David Gomez, thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years. □



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## Aruba Photo Room at Talk of the Town Hotel & Beach Club



ORANJESTAD — The Talk of the Town Hotel & Beach Club in collaboration with the Art Museum of the Americas is delighted to announce the creation of Aruba Photo Room, taking place at the hotel starting on Thursday, October 24th, 2019. The space will feature contemporary photographers from countries members of the Organization of American States (OAS) as well as permanent observer states. The collection will be updated every three months and it will be free and open to the public.

The Art Museum of the Americas is proud to bring samples of its collection of contemporary photography to Oranjestad for the first time. The opening of the three-month series will kick off with Intimate Cartographies: An Approach to Interpersonal Relationships, an exhibition by outstanding artists from OAS member states Argentina, Chile, Mexico; and OAS permanent observer state Italy. The exhibition will be on view from Thursday, October 24th, 2019 until Thursday, January 17th, 2020.

The collection is curated by Fabian Gonçalves, exhibition coordinator of the Art Museum of the Americas since 1998, and curator of photography since 2005. He conceptualizes exhibitions to redefine the space and create a one-to-one encounter with the audience. Beyond a typical installation, the room becomes a communicative sensorial experience where the photographs are treated like graffiti, placed directly on the walls, without protection, frame, or insurance. Thus creating a



sustainable and approachable way of presenting art.

The Talk of the Town Hotel & Beach Club will host an opening reception with light refreshments on Thursday, October 24th, 2019 from 6pm to 8pm.

The Art Museum of the Americas of the Organization of American States is dedicated to Latin Amer-

ican and Caribbean contemporary art. It aims to highlight the four OAS pillars: democracy, human rights, security, and development; through the visual arts of its member and observer countries. The collaboration with the Talk of the Town Hotel & Beach Club will increase the outreach and message of the collection by bringing it to new audiences. □



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## Thomas and Judy Iwankow honored as Goodwill Ambassadors

EAGLE BEACH — Recently, Marouska Heyliger had the great pleasure to honor loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba as Goodwill Ambassadors at their home away from home. The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20-35 and more consecutive years.

The honorees were: Thomas and Judy Iwankow from New York. The couple loves coming to the island for the friendly people, great weather and very relaxing atmosphere.

The event which commemorates their 20th consecutive visit to the island was held at the Marriott Ocean Club Resort. Heyliger together with representatives of the Resort thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years. □



## SPORTS



New England Patriots middle linebacker Kyle Van Noy, left, sacks Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton in the first quarter of an NFL preseason football game, Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019, in Foxborough, Mass.

Associated Press

## Newton injures foot, Brady solid in Patriots' 10-3 win

By KYLE HIGHTOWER  
Sports Writer

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)

— This was not the return to the field that Cam Newton was hoping to make.

The Carolina Panthers quarterback left Thursday night's 10-3 exhibition loss to the New England Patriots in the first quarter with a foot injury that left him grimacing on the sideline.

The 2015 MVP was playing for the first time since Dec. 17, when the team shut him down for the last two games of the season because of shoulder fatigue that prevented him from throwing the ball downfield. He had arthroscopic surgery in January and did not play in the first two pre-season games.

Newton appeared to be injured when he was sacked for a loss of 8 yards by Adam Butler on a third-and-10 from the Carolina 31. It was one of two times Newton was sacked.

Continued on Page 22

## TOUR LEADER



### Koepka leads at East Lake as stars get some separation

Brooks Koepka hits from the fifth fairway during the second round of the Tour Championship golf tournament Friday, Aug. 23, 2019, in Atlanta.

Associated Press  
Page 18

## Koepka leads at East Lake as stars get some separation

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

**ATLANTA (AP)** — A storm delay at the Tour Championship slowed the momentum of Brooks Koepka and Justin Thomas, right when they were starting to pull ahead in the chase for the \$15 million FedEx Cup.

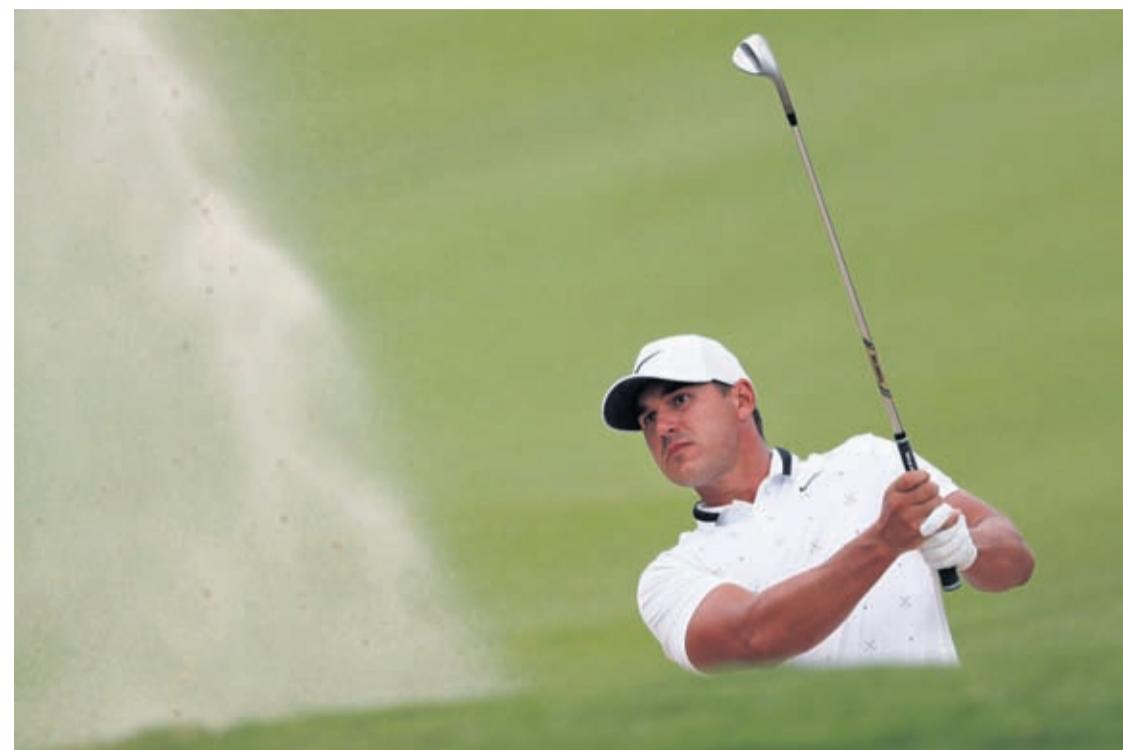
The final hour Friday showed how quickly it can change — and for Rory McIlroy, why no one is holding back in the season finale.

Koepka didn't make a birdie on the back nine until the par-5 18th when he hit 5-iron from 239 yards to 8 feet behind the hole. He had to settle for a two-putt birdie, a 3-under 67 and a one-shot lead. Because he started the tournament at 7-under par as the No. 3 seed, he was at 13 under going to the weekend.

"The lead is always nice, so I'll take that," Koepka said. "The rain delay kind of killed any momentum I had. I didn't feel like I had any good golf shots after the rain delay, but that's part of golf. Everybody's got to deal with the same thing."

He was one shot ahead of Justin Thomas, who played his final 10 holes in 1 over for a 68, and McIlroy, who had a birdie-birdie finish.

And just not any birdie. McIlroy, who trailed by four shots early on the back nine, sent his drive on the 18th hole so far to the right it brought the out-of-bounds practice range into play. He was fortunate to have his ball in dirt under a pine tree, leaving him 242 yards



Brooks Koepka hits out of a fairway bunker on the 13th hole during second round play in the Tour Championship golf tournament Friday, Aug. 23, 2019, at Eastlake Golf Club in Atlanta.

Associated Press

away. McIlroy decided to choke up on a 5-wood and slice it around a tree some 50 yards in front of him, then over the water and near the green.

It came out perfectly, landing in a tiny strip of grass behind bunkers. He got up-and-down for a 67 and was right where he needed to be.

"I felt comfortable doing it," McIlroy said.

Xander Schauffele also made a late surge with a birdie-eagle finish, holing a 25-foot putt on the par-5 18th for a 69. He was two shots behind. Paul Casey had a 67 and was four shots behind at 9 under.

Giving McIlroy good vibes going into the weekend was the score no one sees. McIlroy and Casey are at

7-under 133 over two days, the best 36-hole score in the 30-man field. So he figures he's doing something right with his game.

The scoring for the FedEx Cup underwent a radical change this year, with players in the highest position in the FedEx Cup getting a head start in relation to par. Thomas is the No. 1 seed and started at 10 under before a shot was even hit. Koepka began at 7 under, McIlroy started at 5 under and Schauffele was at 4 under.

The lowest score to par wins the FedEx Cup and its \$15 million bonus.

McIlroy didn't want to waste any chances, and all he saw from the woods was opportunity.

"I had a little gap," he

said. "Whenever you're on my side of the tree, you could see what's on the right-hand side. I obviously curved it a lot. I thought that if I flushed a 5-wood, it might be too long. So I really gripped down on it. In hindsight, I wish I hadn't — might have got on the green.

"Made 4 off a bad tee shot, so I'm not complaining."

Koepka ran off three straight birdies late on the front nine to tie Thomas for the lead, and then never got back on track after players returned to the range and headed back to the course. He missed the green from the 13th fairway and made bogey. He had to scramble for par from short of the 14th green, and behind the 17th green. But

his tee shot found the 18th fairway, setting up the birdie he needed.

Thomas, who began the tournament with a two-shot lead and was tied at the top after his opening 70, quickly got his game back in order and went out in 32, tied with Koepka.

"It would be hard for me to say that it didn't kind of stop my momentum because I was playing really flawlessly that front nine," Thomas said. "The course was playing a little different after that delay. ... For as much as I feel like I scored well on the front nine, just nothing got going on the back nine."

He's still one shot behind, and finally he has a leaderboard that makes sense to him.

Thomas said it was strange for him to see 10 under next to his name as he was starting out Thursday, and that he had a two-shot lead before hitting a shot.

"Today definitely felt more normal," he said. "It felt like I was just trying to build a lead as opposed to yesterday."

Koepka will play in the final group with Thomas, the last two to win PGA Tour player of the year. McIlroy and Thomas have won the FedEx Cup two of the last three years. Schauffele won the Tour Championship two years ago and has yet to have a round over par in his 10 trips around East Lake.

Halfway through, and the FedEx Cup finale is really just getting started. □



Nicole Broch Larsen, of Denmark, tees off on the 10th hole during the second round of the CP Women's Open in Aurora, Ontario, Friday, Aug. 23, 2019.

Associated Press

## Larsen leads CP Women's Open after 2nd straight 66

**AURORA, Ontario (AP)** — Nicole Broch Larsen shot her second consecutive 6-under 66 on Friday for a one-shot lead over top-ranked Jin Young Ko midway through the CP Women's Open.

Broch Larsen, who started on the back nine, birdied three of her last four holes to push ahead of Ko and post 12-under 132 at Magna Golf Club. Ko shot a bogey-free 67.

Broch Larsen, of Denmark, is winless in three seasons on the LPGA Tour and came in 89th in the points standings.

Defending champion Brooke Henderson

of Canada was three shots back after a 69 along with Pajaree Anannarukarn (69) and Yu Liu (67). Amy Olson, who has an outside shot at making the U.S. Solheim Cup team in the final week of qualifying, had a 68 and was another shot behind.

Brittany Altomare, who currently holds the eighth and final U.S. Solheim Cup qualifying spot on points, holed a wedge from the fairway for eagle on the par-5 12th and holed a bunker shot for another eagle on the par-5 14th. But she double-bogeyed the par-3 17th and settled for a 66 to finish at 7 under. □



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## MLB bans players from Venezuelan Winter League

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Major League Baseball is banning players from participating in the Venezuelan Winter League in one of the first public repercussions of new U.S. economic sanctions against the Venezuelan government.

MLB said Thursday it is in contact with the U.S. government to determine how to proceed under the new sanctions against President Nicolás Maduro's administration and at least temporarily suspending involvement in the league.

The Venezuelan Winter League is one many that major league players use to hone their skills in the off-season.

"MLB will fully adhere to the policies implemented by our government," MLB announced in a statement.

President Donald Trump's administration issued a broad ban blocking companies and individuals from doing business with Mad-

uro's socialist government earlier this month, putting the nation on a short list of U.S. adversaries — including Cuba, North Korea and Iran — targeted with such aggressive financial measures.

The Wall Street Journal reported that MLB's decision also applies to minor league players, but it won't prevent Venezuelan players from returning home during the offseason.

Venezuela has long served as an important incubator for big league talent, but in recent years the relationship has steadily deteriorated amid a political crisis and economic contraction far worse than the Great Depression. MLB teams have shut down their academies in Venezuela and no longer send scouts.

Teams of young, aspiring Venezuelan baseball players now regularly rely on Venezuelan MLB stars to help finance trips to com-

pete in championships. Venezuela's state-owned oil company, known as PDVSA, has been a major sponsor of the nation's professional baseball league.

The Trump administration also sanctioned PDVSA earlier this year as part of a continuing effort to starve the Maduro administration of cash and support opposition leader Juan Guaidó. The Venezuelan league did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Back in the heyday of Venezuela's oil-fueled economic boom in the 1960s, Pete Rose wore a Caracas Leones jersey right after his rookie season. American players continued to flock to the league up until recent years, attracted by the opportunity to play with talented teams before packed stadiums full of enthusiastic fans.

Security issues, six-digit hyperinflation, growing flight cancellations and a sim-



- In this April 21, 2018, file photo, Detroit Tigers' Miguel Cabrera, of Venezuela, prepares to bat during the third inning of a baseball game against the Kansas City Royals in Detroit.

**Associated Press**

mering political standoff have lured fewer, though Venezuelans have remained steadfast in their passion for the American pastime.

It's not the first time politics has interfered with baseball during the Trump administration. Earlier this year, the Treasury Department moved to reverse an Obama administration decision allowing Cuban baseball players to sign

contracts directly with MLB organizations.

The Obama policy allowed the major leagues to pay the Cuban Baseball Federation a release fee equal to 25% of each Cuban player's signing bonus. U.S. law prohibits virtually all payments to the Cuban government under the 60-year embargo, but MLB argued the Cuban baseball league was not formally part of the state. □

# Orioles set single-season record for HRs allowed, Rays win

By The Associated Press

**BALTIMORE (AP)** — The Baltimore Orioles set the major league record for home runs allowed in a season, giving up drives to Austin Meadows and Willy Adames in a rain-delayed, 5-2 loss to Tampa Bay that ended shortly before 1 a.m. Friday.

About 200 fans were left at Camden Yards when the Rays closed out the win. Meadows hit the record-setting 259th home run off Baltimore this year, connecting in the third inning. The last-place Orioles began the day tied with the 2016 Cincinnati Reds for the dubious mark.

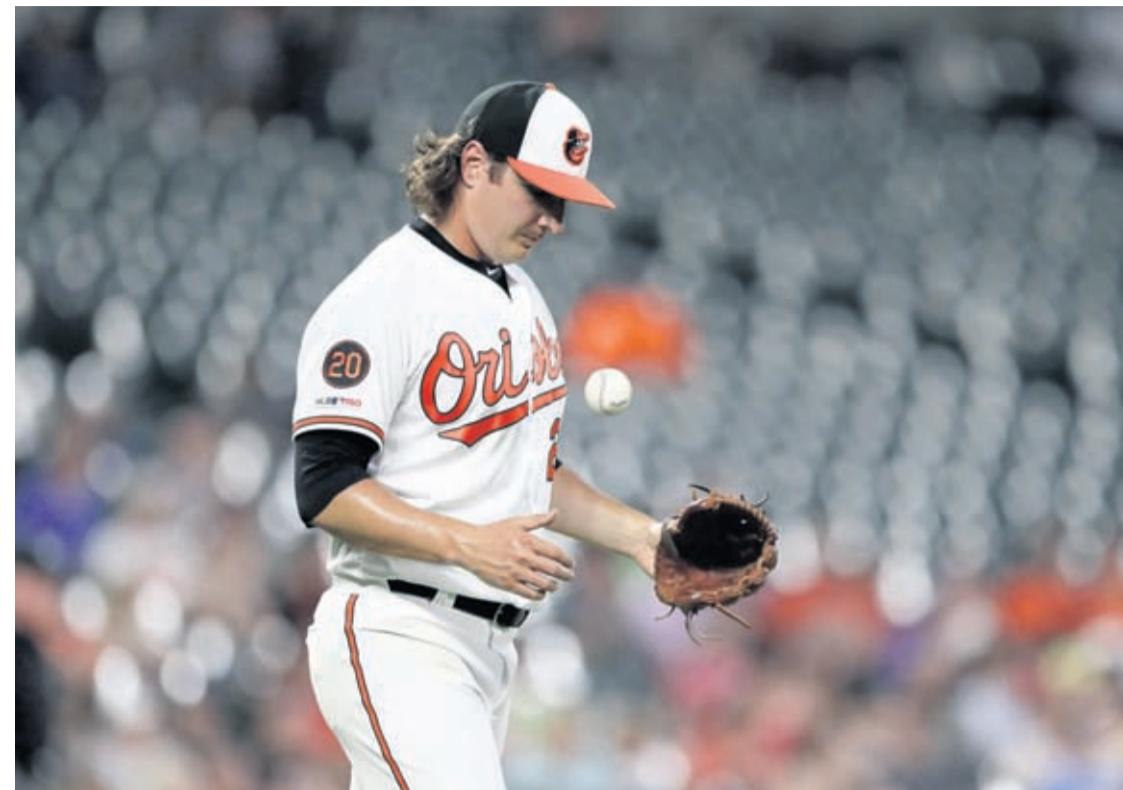
Adames later hit No. 260 against the O's. Baltimore still has 34 more games remaining.

After a rain delay of more than two hours, Adames hit a go-ahead single in the sixth off Miguel Castro (1-2). Oliver Drake (2-1) got the win and Emilio Pagan picked up his 14th save in 21 chances.

#### ATHLETICS 5, YANKEES 3

**OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)** — Tanner Roark struck out seven and didn't walk a batter over six-plus innings, Yankees starter Masahiro Tanaka struggled early and Oakland finished a three-game series sweep.

Mark Canha hit a two-run single as the A's immediately jumped on Tanaka (9-7) en route to a seventh victory in eight overall. New York's Gleyber Torres



Baltimore Orioles starting pitcher Asher Wojciechowski tosses a ball in reaction after allowing a solo home run to Tampa Bay Rays' Austin Meadows during the third inning of a baseball game Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019, in Baltimore.

homered twice, giving him 31 this year, and also doubled and singled.

Oakland has won three of Roark's four starts since he was acquired from Cincinnati. Roark (2-1) allowed two runs and seven hits in 6 1/3 innings.

Joakim Soria got his first save in five chances.

#### ASTROS 6, TIGERS 3

**HOUSTON (AP)** — Gerrit Cole struck out 12 over seven scoreless innings and Alex Bregman homered for Houston.

Cole (15-5) pitched two-hit ball and allowed one walk. He's 11-0 with a 1.84 ERA in his past 15 starts and has

238 strikeouts this season, one shy of teammate and league leader Justin Verlander.

Cole returned for his first start since Aug. 7 after dealing with right hamstring discomfort. He showed no signs of rust, retiring 16 of his final 17 batters.

Roberto Osuna got one out for his 30th save.

Jordan Zimmermann (1-9) allowed three hits and two runs in five innings.

#### WHITE SOX 6, RANGERS 1

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Yoán Moncada lined a two-run homer on his return from the injured list and Ross Detwiler struck out a career-

high eight for Chicago.

James McCann hit a solo homer and doubled, and Jose Abreu, Tim Anderson and Matt Skole each had an RBI as Chicago won for the third time in four games. Out since July 31 with a strained right hamstring, Moncada batted cleanup and made an immediate impact with his 21st homer as the White Sox jumped to an early five-run lead. He also doubled in the fifth and gave his team a scare when he fell awkwardly exiting the batter's box as he grounded out to end the seventh. He was tended to by a trainer and remained

Associated Press

in the game.

Elvis Andrus' solo homer accounted for the only run against Detwiler (2-3) and was one of only three hits off the left-hander, who walked none over six innings. The 33-year-old earned his second win this season — and only his second in the majors over nearly three years.

Jimmy Cordero followed with two scoreless relief innings, and Kelvin Herrera tossed the ninth to complete a three-hitter.

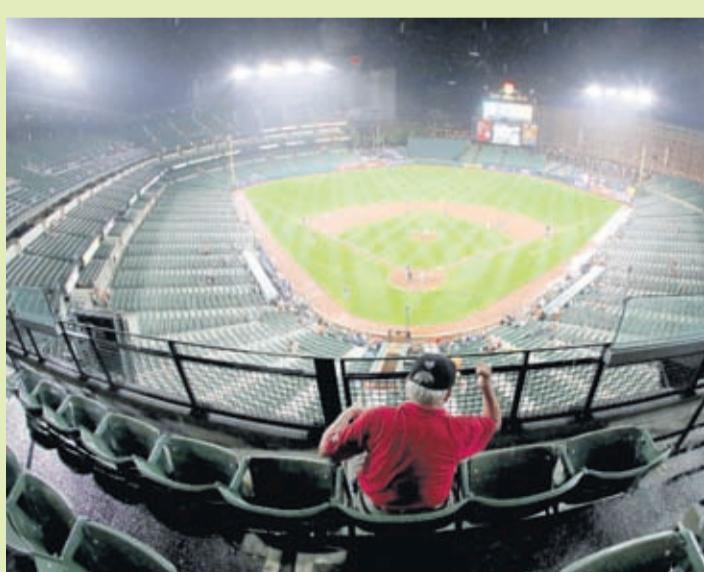
Ariel Jurado (6-10) allowed six runs and 10 hits in eight innings as he lost his fourth straight start.

#### RED SOX 5, ROYALS 4

**BOSTON (AP)** — Brock Holt hit an RBI single with one out in the bottom of the 10th inning as the Red Sox won a weather-suspended game that began Aug. 7.

The original contest was halted after a 1 hour, 49 minute-rain delay early on Aug. 8 with the score tied 4-4 and nobody out in the top of the 10th inning. Royals catcher Meibrys Viloria was facing a 2-1 count against Red Sox reliever Josh Taylor.

Play resumed 14 days, 14 hours and 18 minutes later. Ryan O'Hearn struck out and pinch hitter Bubba Starling grounded out to end the Royals' inning. Starling took the spot of Billy Hamilton, who went 2 for 4 with a strikeout on Aug. 8 but was designated for assignment on Aug. 16. □



A man reacts to a play during the sixth inning of a baseball game between the Baltimore Orioles and the Tampa Bay Rays, Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019, in Baltimore. The Rays won 5-2. Associated Press

## Orioles GM Elias fires 11 scouts, front-office workers

By DAVID GINSBURG

AP Sports Writer

**BALTIMORE (AP)** — Orioles general manager Mike Elias has fired 11 members of the scouting department and front office as part of an effort to turn around a team in the early stages of a major rebuild. Elias announced the personnel moves Friday. The rookie GM would not reveal the names of those people dismissed, nor the positions impacted.

"We're in a period of change right now with the industry and we're in a period of change right now with the Orioles," Elias said. "Sometimes to make changes you've got to make changes."

The Orioles hired Elias in November and manager Brandon Hyde in December following a season in which they finished 47-115, their worst record since coming from St. Louis in 1954. This year, Baltimore again is in position to end up with the worst record in the majors, currently leading only Detroit for that dubious distinction.

Elias hopes shuffling personnel and scouting assignments will speed the process of bringing the Orioles back to respectability. "We are reconfiguring quite a bit. We're going to be very busy bringing people into this organization," he said. "This is just the organization moving along and adapting to the sport today." □

## Hernandez single in 9th lifts Dodgers over Blue Jays 3-2

By The Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Kiké Hernandez capped a three-run ninth inning by blooping an RBI single and Los Angeles rallied after being one-hit through eight innings.

Shut down by rookie Jacob Waguespack, the Dodgers rallied with three straight hits against Derek Law (0-2).

Casey Sadler (3-0) got the win for the NL West leaders. Los Angeles has won five in a row at Dodger Stadium going into this weekend's big series against the New York Yankees.

Vladimir Guerrero Jr. homered for Toronto.

### METS 2, INDIANS 0

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Noah Syndergaard retired the first 16 hitters and allowed two hits over six dominant innings before a heavy storm interrupted him, and New York won a rain-shortened game for its fifth straight victory.

The game was called with New York batting in the eighth inning after a second rain delay.

The Mets completed a three-game sweep. They've won 13 of their last 14 home games, helping them get into the NL wild-card mix.

Cleveland's first visit to Citi Field was a flop and its seven-game trip through New York that began at Yankee Stadium ended with a 2-5 record. The Indians also lost for the seventh time in nine games overall and dropped 3 1/2 games behind Minnesota in the AL

Central. Syndergaard (9-6) struck out five and walked none. Paul Sewald got his third career save. Rookie Aaron Civale (1-3) took the loss.

### CUBS 1, GIANTS 0

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Kyle Hendricks pitched seven sharp innings as the Cubs won their fifth straight despite getting only two hits.

Anthony Rizzo hit an RBI single to help the NL Central leaders complete a three-game sweep. The Giants lost their fourth in a row.

A day after the Cubs won 12-11 in a game with seven home runs, there was a brisk breeze blowing in at Wrigley Field and the teams combined for just six hits. Hendricks (9-9) allowed three hits, struck out seven and walked none. Relievers Brandon Kintzler, Kyle Ryan and Rowan Wick each got two outs to complete the four-hitter. Wick finished for his second save as Cubs pitchers combined for 10 strikeouts without a walk. Jeff Samardzija (9-10) gave up one run on two hits in seven innings against his former team.

San Francisco's best scoring chance came in the eighth. Crawford tripled off the right field wall with two outs against Kintzler. Ryan, a left-hander, then came on to strike out pinch-hitter Austin Slater to end the inning.

### NATIONALS 7, PIRATES 1

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Max Scherzer pitched four innings in his return from the injured list, giving up one run and four hits.



Los Angeles Dodgers' Corey Seager, center, scores the winning run on a single by Enrique Hernandez, as Toronto Blue Jays catcher Danny Jansen, right, misses the throw during the ninth inning of a baseball game Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019, in Los Angeles. The Dodgers won 3-2.

Associated Press

The three-time Cy Young Award winner, who was put on the IL on July 26 with a strain in his upper back, struck out three and walked one. The Nationals hadn't set a pitch count for Scherzer but said they would closely monitor him. He threw 71 pitches, 48 for strikes.

Anthony Rendon and Howie Kendrick homered for Washington, which leads the NL wild-card race and won for the ninth time in 11 games. Kendrick singled, doubled and hit his 14th homer, a two-run drive in the eighth that made it 4-1. Rendon hit his 28th home run in the ninth.

The Pirates fell to 8-30 since the All-Star break. Steven Brault (3-3) allowed two runs in six innings.

Scherzer is 7-0 in his past 11 starts. Hunter Strickland (2-1) allowed one hit in two innings for the win.

### CARDINALS 6, ROCKIES 5

**ST. LOUIS (AP)** — Marcell Ozuna, Paul DeJong and Dexter Fowler each hit two-run homers to pace the Cardinals.

Fowler's 15th home run of the season, off of a 97 mph fastball from Yency Almonte (0-1) in the seventh, capped the comeback. Matt Carpenter set it up by working a walk in an eight-pitch, pinch hitting appearance to lead off the frame. Dominic Leone (1-0), who was recalled from Triple-A Memphis before the game, got the win. Giovanny Gallegos and Andrew Miller pitched a scoreless eighth and Carlos Martínez picked up his 15th save in 18 opportunities.

Ozuna's blast into the upper deck in left field in the fourth came after Paul Goldschmidt singled to tie the game 2-2. Ozuna has hit safely in 13 of his last 16 games.

DeJong drilled a German Márquez curve 423 feet into the left-center bleachers in the sixth to cut it to 5-4. DeJong's two-run homer extended his RBI streak to four games, one shy of his career high.

Márquez allowed four runs in six innings, on six hits, a pair of walks and four strike-

outs.

### BRAVES 3, MARLINS 2

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Ronald Acuña Jr. hit an RBI single with two outs in the ninth inning as the Atlanta Braves won their fifth straight. Freddie Freeman hit a tying homer in the eighth and the Braves sent Miami to its 12th road loss in a row, the longest streak in the majors this year.

The NL East-leading Braves went 15-4 against the Marlins this year.

Adeiny Hechavarria opened the Atlanta ninth with a double and later scored on Acuña's single off Ryne Stanek (0-3).

Freeman's 34th homer, an opposite-field drive to left, came off Stanek, who lost his first decision since being acquired from Tampa Bay. Mark Melancon (5-2) faced four batters in the ninth to earn the win.

Braves starter Mike Soroka hasn't won a decision in seven straight starts. Soroka, tied for the second-best ERA in the majors at 2.41, allowed no walks and struck out five in seven innings. □

## Rangers righty Farrell returns after broken jaw, concussion

By MATT CARLSON  
Associated Press

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Texas reliever Luke Farrell, out since being hit in the face by a line drive in spring training, was activated from the 60-day injured list by the Rangers before their game Friday against the White Sox.

The 28-year-old right-hander has spent the entire sea-

son rehabbing since suffering a non-displaced jaw fracture and concussion when he was struck by a comebacker off the bat of San Francisco's Jalen Miller in a March 2 game in Scottsdale, Arizona.

"It's been a long road to get back here and bounce back from the injury and everything," Farrell said. "I

feel great and happy to join the team."

Farrell, the son of former Red Sox manager John Farrell, said he was unable to return to baseball activities for weeks after the gruesome incident.

"It was, honestly, a migraine for two months," he said. "Really unable to handle light, noise, direct

conversation, just really taxing. I can think of times I was trying maybe to tip at a restaurant or something and the brain just doesn't work, doesn't fire."

Farrell spent most of the season recovering at the Rangers' training facility in Surprise, Arizona. He began a rehab assignment on July 23 with Texas' Rookie Ari-

zona League team. He was assigned on Aug. 6 to Double-A Frisco, where he was 0-0 with a 1.04 ERA in five games. Farrell is 3-4 with a 5.28 ERA in 30 games with three major league teams. He last pitched in the majors for the Chicago Cubs on July 23, 2018, when he allowed six runs in 3 1/2 innings against Arizona. □

# Raiders edge Packers on 80-yard field in Winnipeg

**WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP)**

— Daniel Carlson kicked a 33-yard field goal with 8 seconds remaining, and the Oakland Raiders earned a bizarre 22-21 preseason victory over the Green Bay Packers on a field shortened to 80 yards for player safety.

End zones were marked by bright orange pylons at the 10-yard lines and there were no kickoffs. The field was reconfigured because of concerns about the areas where the goal posts for the CFL's Winnipeg franchise were removed and covered with turf.

Before warmups, game officials and staff from both clubs examined the turf that covered the goal post spots for 110-yard CFL games. The goal posts would have been inside the NFL end zones.

Packers coach Matt LaFleur decided to sit 33 players, including star quarterback Aaron Rodgers and running back Aaron Jones. Rodgers hasn't played in the preseason.

Oakland didn't play starters, including quarterback Derek Carr or receiver An-



**Oakland Raiders' Daniel Carlson (8) celebrates his go-ahead field goal against the Green Bay Packers in the final minute of an NFL preseason football game Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019, in Winnipeg, Manitoba.**

tonio Brown.

"We were going to have all our starters play, and it was just one of those deals," LaFleur said. "We certainly have all played on much worse surfaces in our life, but it was just one of those deals where they weren't playing their starters and so we just decided to sit them."

It was the first NFL game in Canada since the Buffalo Bills faced the Atlanta Falcons in December 2013 to finish a run of eight games in Toronto.

Packers quarterback Tim Boyle said he checked out a turf-covered spot during warmup.

"It was just a little raised," Boyle said. "But it's some-

thing you don't really want to play around with, especially guys who, this is their living. This puts food on the table for them, so you don't want to mess around with injuries."

Oakland coach Jon Gruden said the playing surface didn't concern him. "I'm not going to make a big deal about the field,"

**Associated Press**

Gruden said. "We liked the field. We thought the field was perfectly ready to roll. You'll have to ask Green Bay about that."

The Raiders decided to move one of their two home exhibition games to Winnipeg in a move that saved them \$500,000 in rent at the Oakland Coliseum. The team is planning to move to Las Vegas in 2020. Tim Boyle, Rodgers' backup, threw a 23-yard touchdown pass to Trevor Davis and a 26-yarder to Jake Kumerow. Tra Carson ran for a touchdown for the Packers, and Green Bay led 21-10 at halftime.

The Raiders' Nathan Peterman threw two touchdown passes, including a 17-yarder to De'Mornay Pierson-El in the fourth quarter that cut Green Bay's lead to 21-19. His 2-point conversion attempt was intercepted. Peterman finished 23 of 37 for 210 yards.

## UP NEXT

Packers: End their pre-season schedule by hosting the Kansas City Chiefs next Thursday night.

Raiders: At Seattle on Thursday night. □

## Patriots

**Continued from 17**

Newton was initially evaluated on the sideline and quickly accompanied to the locker room and did not return.

He didn't speak with reporters after the game but could be seen staring at the ground and wore a boot as he walked from the locker room toward the team bus.

"He got sacked, that's about all I saw," Carolina coach Ron Rivera said.

Asked if Newton's injury affects his opinion on the number of exhibition of games, Rivera said it's in the hands of the league.

"It's tough. It's part of the game, unfortunately," Rivera said. Kyle Allen took over at quarterback.

The Panthers were pedestrian on offense and went three-and-out in each of their first two series of the

night. Newton went 4-for-6 for 30 yards. Tom Brady finished his first exhibition game of 2019 by going 8-for-12 for 75 yards, including an 18-yard pass to tight end Ryan Izzo to set up a 1-yard touchdown plunge by James Develin. It was the starting offense's final series. Brady did it with a skeleton crew at receiver. Julian Edelman, Josh Gordon, N'Keal Harry and Demaryius Thomas all sat out. But undrafted rookie Jakobi Meyers continued to help open the field, catching seven passes for 74 yards. Phillip Dorsett also had seven catches for 47 yards.

Brady, who wore a fedora after the game, like the hats Newton often wears, said it was tough to see him get hurt.

"It's always hard to see them," Brady said. "We've had our fair share of watch-



**New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady runs with the ball as Carolina Panthers linebacker Jermaine Carter (56) chases him in the first half of an NFL preseason football game, Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019, in Foxborough, Mass.**

**Associated Press**

ing and being part of these games. Guys you think are gonna play a big role over the course of the year and then in one play it doesn't happen that way. ... Injuries are part of the game."

## INJURIES

Panthers: OT Greg Little was evaluated for a concussion in the fourth quarter.

Patriots: Special teamer Brandon King was carted off the field with about a minute to go in the first half after helping block on a punt return. ... RB Damien Harris left in the second quarter with an undisclosed injury.

## FIRST ACTION

Christian McCaffrey, Greg

Olsen and Luke Kuechly all made their pre-season debuts for the Panthers after not playing in the first two games.

McCaffrey had the best night, rushing three times for 16 yards and hauling in a 10-yard reception. Olsen had one catch for four yards and Kuechly made a tackle.

## NO BAD BLOOD

Safety Eric Reid said there was no malice in slapping the Patriots' Ben Watson across the neck as the tight end lay on his back after making a sideline catch. Reid was called for unnecessary roughness on the play. Watson stayed down briefly but walked off under his own power.

"I was just trying to stop him from getting the first down," Reid said. "I looked at the replay and, yeah, he was down. We'll see what the league do with it. I'm sure I'll end up getting a fine." □



Curacao's Clay Winklaar (10) celebrates as he crosses home plate and is greeted by teammates after hitting a grand slam off South Korea's Jinwon Na during the first inning of an elimination baseball game at the Little League World Series tournament in South Williamsport, Pa., Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019.

Associated Press

## Unbeaten Japan takes on Curacao in Little League semifinal

By TYLER KING

Associated Press

**SOUTH WILLIAMSPT, Pa. (AP)** — Japan is just one win away from its eighth Little League World Series championship game appearance this decade. The Chofu City Little League team is continuing what has been a dominant run in South Williamsport for a country with a population of nearly 127 million.

The only thing standing in Japan's way? A team from the tiny island of Curacao, which has a population of just 162,000. That's smaller than the population of Chofu City, which has almost 230,000 residents.

But this is no David vs. Goliath matchup.

The teams will meet Saturday at Lamade Stadium, with the victor earning a place in the championship game against either Hawaii or Louisiana.

**STORY SO FAR:** While Japan has outscored its opponents by 30 runs in its 3-0 start to the tournament, Curacao has a run differential of plus-23 in its five games in South Williamsport.

Outside of two solo home runs allowed against South Korea on Wednesday, the Japanese pitching staff has had an unblemished performance. Japan blew out Italy 20-0 in its opening game then followed that with convincing wins over Mexico (5-0) and South Korea (7-2) to reach this point.

Curacao has had to fight back through the losers' bracket this week to make it to Saturday's game. The Caribbean regional champions lost to South Korea 4-0 on Sunday, but got redemption on Thursday with a 5-3 win that included a first inning grand slam by Clay Winklaar.

**WHO TO WATCH:** Japan will have every member of its talented pitching staff available to throw in Saturday's game, but it might be the only player not to start a game who has stood out the most. Yuto Misaki has made a relief appearance in all three of Japan's games and hasn't allowed a run in 5 2/3 innings, while striking out nine batters. Curacao's Curley Martha has been a force at the plate all tournament. He's 8-for-13 with a pair of home runs and six RBIs. His solo home run helped provide an insurance run in the win over South Korea on Thursday and he's driven in a run in all but one of Curacao's games so far.

**DID YOU KNOW:** Jurick Profar, the youngest brother of Oakland Athletics infielder Jurickson Profar, is the third Profar brother to play in the Little League World Series and has been a key contributor to the Curacao team. When Jurick takes the field Saturday, all three of the Profar brothers will have made it as far as the international championship. □



In this Friday, May 31, 2019 file photo, Slovenia's Primoz Roglic, left, Ecuador's Richard Antonio Carapaz Montenegro, and Italy's Vincenzo Nibali, right, cross the finish line at the end of the 19th stage of the Giro d'Italia cycling race, from Treviso to San Marino di Castrozza, Italy.

Associated Press

## Ex-ski jumper Roglic has chance to shine at Spanish Vuelta

By JOSEPH WILSON

Associated Press

**BARCELONA, Spain (AP)** — With many top names out, the Spanish Vuelta looks like a good opportunity for lesser known but talented riders like Primoz Roglic to win a Grand Tour.

The 29-year-old Slovenian, who transitioned to cycling from ski jumping in 2012, excels at time trials and has shown he can hold his own in the mountains, something he will need in the Spanish race with its multiple demanding climbs.

Roglic finished fourth overall in the 2018 Tour de France and was third in the Giro d'Italia in June, where he also won two stages. He should be well rested after skipping this year's Tour in July. "To finish on the podium of a Grand Tour is nice but I've already done it at the Giro so I want to win here," Roglic said. "I'll try everything to win it."

The 21-day race starts on Saturday with a team time trial to Torrevieja on the southeastern coast.

Last year's winner Simon Yates is not defending his title. Ineos, the powerhouse team formerly known as Sky, is bringing a weaker lineup that does not include Tour winner Egan Bernal, Geraint Thomas, or two-time former Vuelta champion Chris Froome, who is injured. Also missing

are this year's Giro winner Richard Carapaz, along with Julian Alaphilippe, Tom Dumoulin, Vincenzo Nibali, and Mikel Landa.

Roglic has been given the leadership role on his Jumbo-Visma team, where he will be supported by Steven Kruijswijk, who finished third in this year's Tour.

"I'm here to help the team win La Vuelta, but I'd like to do it myself of course," Kruijswijk said. "Primoz is also one of the favorites and we have to see halfway through La Vuelta. We start with the ambition to be up there and we can play some games, being so strong as a team."

Nairo Quintana, the 2016 Vuelta winner, tipped Roglic as the pre-race favorite, especially given the individual time trial on Stage 10, when the race jumps across the border into France for a 36-kilometer (22.3-mile) jaunt from Jurancon to Pau.

"He is a complete rider, better than the rest in the time trial, and with a team that we will have to work hard to stop," Quintana said of Roglic. "The time trial is long, but we will have to do our best."

### LAST RACE

This will likely be the last major race for Quintana with his Movistar team.

Both he and the outfit have said they are parting ways

next year after eight seasons together, which have included Quintana winning the Vuelta, the Giro and twice coming in runner-up at the Tour, among other successes, before his dip in form the last two years.

"I feel good and would like to close an era in the best possible way," Quintana said. World champion Alejandro Valverde will be a co-leader of Movistar. The 39-year-old Spaniard won the Vuelta a decade ago and cannot be ruled out entirely.

### SOUTH AMERICAN SWEEP?

Starting with Quintana, the field features a group of Colombians who should all be considered contenders. If one of them does ride triumphantly into Madrid on the final stage on Sept. 15, it would complete a South American sweep of this year's three Grand Tours. Carapaz, from Ecuador, won the Giro and Bernal, a Colombian, took the French prize.

The other top Colombians are Miguel Ángel López of Astana, Rigoberto Urán of EF Education First, and Esteban Chaves of Michelton-Scott. "It would be the greatest pride to win La Vuelta and have a Latin American party," Quintana said. Carapaz was going to ride the Vuelta for Movistar but had to pull out due to a shoulder injury. □

# Appeals court insulates Qualcomm from FTC's antitrust win

By MICHAEL LIEDTKE

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

A federal appeals court is temporarily protecting Qualcomm from an antitrust ruling that would have forced the mobile chipmaker to drastically change how it licenses key technology for connecting smartphones to the internet.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeal granted a stay Friday in a high-stakes case that has pitted U.S. government agencies against each other while magnifying Qualcomm's pivotal role in an upcoming shift to ultrafast wireless connections, known as 5G.

The latest twist will prevent the Federal Trade Commission from enforcing key provisions of a lower court ruling that said Qualcomm abused its portfolio of about 140,000 patents to stifle competition.

The Justice Department, joined by the Defense and Energy departments, had taken the unusual step of urging the appeals court to stay, or put on hold, parts of that ruling in the interests of



This Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2018 file photo shows the logo for Qualcomm on a screen at the Nasdaq MarketSite, in New York.

Associated Press

national security. They argued the ruling would hobble Qualcomm so severely that the San Diego company would have to curtail much-needed investments in the evolution to 5G, opening the door for China to gain an advantage in a critical area of technology. Qualcomm is a leader in the 5G, along with European-based Ericsson and Nokia and China's Huawei, a company that has been blacklisted by the Trump administration because of

suspected ties to its home country's government. The shift to 5G during the next decade is expected to enable advances in robotics, wearable devices such as smartwatches and smart glasses, self-driving cars and communications. The appeals court cited concerns from the Justice, Defense and Energy departments and said Qualcomm had "demonstrated the probability of irreparable harm" if U.S. District Judge Lucy Koh's ruling is

immediately imposed.

Qualcomm argued Koh's provisions would have unfairly eroded its revenue and potentially given away its technological secrets. The stay will prevent that from happening while Qualcomm pursues its appeal. Oral arguments are scheduled for January.

Until then, the stay will allow Qualcomm "to continue to invest in inventing the fundamental technologies at the heart of mobile communications at this critical time of transition to 5G," said Don Rosenberg, the company's general counsel.

The FTC expressed disappointment with the stay, but promised to monitor Qualcomm's business practices during the appeal.

Qualcomm's stock shed \$2.39, or 3%, to \$74.76 in Friday's afternoon trading, primarily driven down by a widespread sell off in major technology companies as investors worried about how Trump's escalating trade war with China will affect the industry's future profits. □

**U.S. fossil fuel official says tech can help coal industry**

By MEAD GRUVER

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) —

Touring Wyoming at a crucial time for the top coal-mining state, the U.S. official who oversees government research into fossil fuels said Thursday it's not too late for new technology to help the coal industry.

Technology to put carbon dioxide from coal-fired power plants to widespread, economical use is on track to hit the market within 10 to 25 years, Winberg said. The clock is ticking. Winberg's visit to Wyoming coincides with more uncertainty about coal's future than ever before.

Financial troubles have shut down two huge open-pit mines in the Powder River Basin. About 700 people at the Eagle Butte and Belle Ayr mines were furloughed when the mines' owner, Milton, West Virginia-based Blackjewel LLC, filed for bankruptcy July 1. Blackjewel's bankruptcy is one of two in the basin this year and six since 2015 as coal-fired power plummets from about half of all U.S. electricity generation a decade ago to less than 30 percent now.

Winberg's trip focused on fossil fuel technologies, including techniques to keep the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere from coal-fired power plants. He oversees the Energy Department's coal, oil and natural gas research and development program and the Office of Petroleum Reserves, which runs oil and gasoline reserves the U.S. can use during severe supply interruptions. □

## Trump asks appeals court to reconsider Twitter-blocking case

By LARRY NEUMEISTER

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — President Donald Trump hasn't given up his fight to block critics from his Twitter feed.

Justice Department lawyers Friday asked the full 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan to decide whether a three-judge appeals panel erred in ruling he could not.

They said the case has important implications for public officials who increasingly use social media, particularly on personal social media accounts.

"If the panel is correct, public officials who address matters relating to their public office on personal accounts will run the risk that every action taken on

that account will be state action subject to constitutional scrutiny," the lawyers wrote.

It is rare for the 2nd Circuit to grant a request for the 11 appeals judges who have not reached senior status to collectively consider a case. The appeals court generally grants such a request less often than once a year.

If the request for what is called an "en banc" hearing is denied, the case could still be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The lawyers from the Justice Department's civil division say the July ruling conflicts with prior court precedents and presents a question of "exceptional importance." The 2nd Circuit panel con-



This July 8, 2019, file photo shows President Donald Trump speaking during an event about the environment in the East Room of the White House, in Washington.

Associated Press

cluded Trump's daily pronouncements and observations were overwhelmingly official in nature. It said he thus violated the First Amendment whenever he blocked a critic to silence a viewpoint.

The Justice Department lawyers insisted in their latest filing that the president's @realDonaldTrump account is a personal ac-

count he created in 2009, long before he became president. They said it should be treated like any personal property belonging to Trump.

"His ability to exclude others from this personal property is likewise independent of his office. That authority was conferred on him by Twitter, not by the government," they wrote. □

## Why streaming services are the new credit card rewards binge

By SARA RATHNER

NerdWallet

**Associated Press**

When it comes to credit card rewards, it's not all about gas, groceries and restaurants anymore. Issuers are moving beyond suburban staples to include millennial-friendly categories such as transit and streaming subscriptions.

The trend toward streaming rewards, in particular, is hard to miss, with cards from American Express, Chase and Wells Fargo now featuring streaming as a bonus category. But what's behind this explosion? For starters, streaming is wildly popular. As of 2017, more than half of U.S. households subscribed to paid video-streaming services, according to Deloitte's digital media trends survey.

But experts say it's also about issuers forging early connections with younger consumers and ensuring that they remain customers.

"The strategy is simple: If a consumer opens a credit card when young, the (issuer) can build a long-term relationship with the consumer," says Logan Allec, a CPA and founder of the financial blog Money Done Right.

### MEETING PEOPLE WHERE THEY'RE SPENDING

The Deloitte study notes the percentage of U.S. households subscribing to a paid streaming video service grew from 10% in 2009 to 55% in 2017 — a 450% increase. Consumers subscribe to an average of



This Jan. 17, 2017, file photo, shows Netflix on a tablet, in North Andover, Mass.

**Associated Press**

three such services.

Issuers have taken notice. Wells Fargo made a splash last summer, revamping the Wells Fargo Propel American Express, which now earns triple points back per dollar spent on eligible streaming services. In May 2019, the Blue Cash Preferred Card from American Express underwent a makeover, adding select U.S. streaming services as a 6% cash-back category. The following month, the Chase Freedom entered the streaming fray. The card earns 5% cash back in bonus categories that rotate each quarter, on up to \$1,500 in spending per quarter. (You must opt in to the bonus categories each quarter; all other purchases

earn 1% back.) From July 1 to Sept. 30, 2019, one of those bonus categories is select streaming services. Kunal Madhok, vice president of U.S. consumer lending and acquisition at American Express, noted via email that AmEx research found that a segment of millennials were spending more on "day-to-day" costs like commuting and streaming compared with five years ago. So the Blue Cash Preferred was reworked to reward cardholders more heavily for these types of costs.

"The card is designed to give people the most cash back on the things they value and spend frequently on, now including quality time at home streaming

their favorite show," Madhok said.

Of course, your monthly Netflix bill likely represents only a fraction of your household budget, so don't expect a boatload of rewards from this category alone. Say your family spends \$15.99 per month on Netflix Premium, \$14.99 per month on a Spotify Family plan and \$5.99 per month on Hulu, for a total of \$443.64 per year. If you earn 6% cash back on these services by paying for them with the Blue Cash Preferred Card from American Express, that's just \$26.62 in rewards per year.

And that doesn't take into account the card's \$95 annual fee. When choosing

any rewards card, look for categories that match your spending enough to offset that cost.

### BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH YOUNGER SPENDERS

Per the Deloitte survey, 70% of Gen Z households (ages 14 to 20) had a streaming subscription in 2017, as did 68% of millennial households (ages 21 to 34).

Experts say credit card issuers see an opportunity here to lure customers while they're young, rewarding them for the spending they're doing anyway while also converting them into long-term cardholders. "As the consumer gets older, and presumably begins to spend more, the credit card company has already secured their business," Allec says.

Subscription services can give these relationships staying power, too, because they're typically "set it and forget it" transactions. If an issuer can get you to use its card as your automated payment method each month, you're more likely to keep it — even if you never take the card out of your wallet. "Credit card companies want consumers to choose their cards for subscriptions as it's a regular — often monthly — recurring transaction that they can rely on as a base of card spend," says Derek Szeto, co-founder of Butter, a tool that helps consumers track and manage subscriptions. "Active cards are sticky cards." □

## Stocks edge lower as traders weigh Fed chief remarks

By ALEX VEIGA

**Associated Press**

Stocks edged lower in early trading on Wall Street Friday after Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell gave no clear signal on additional interest rate cuts. Stocks recovered some of their losses from an early slide caused by the latest escalation in the trade war between the U.S. and China.

Speaking at a Fed policy conference in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Powell noted that there's growing evidence of a global economic slowdown and suggested that uncertainty over President Donald

Trump's trade wars have complicated the central bank's ability to set interest rate policy. Powell reiterated that the Fed "will act as appropriate to sustain the expansion." The Fed cut rates last month for the first time in a decade, and most investors expect it to cut rates again in September to shore up U.S. economic growth.

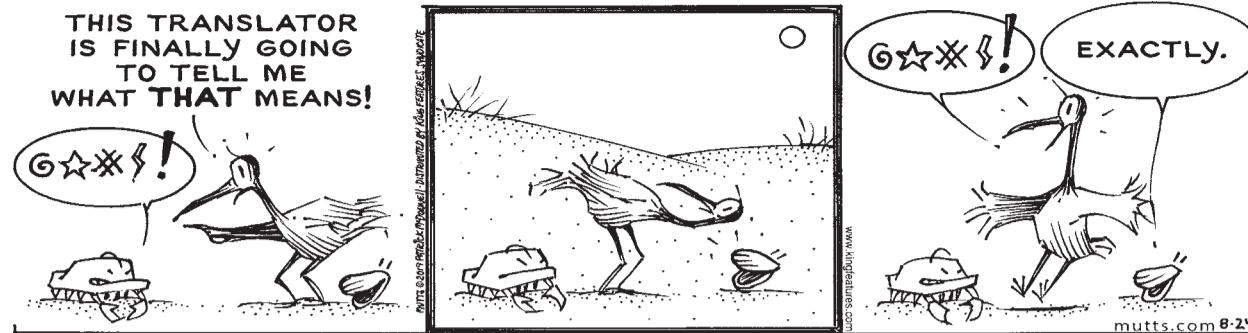
Beijing said Friday it would retaliate against the most recent round of tariffs imposed by Washington with duties on \$75 billion of U.S. products. The tariffs of 10% and 5% are to take effect on two batches of goods on Sept. 1 and Dec. 15, the official Xinhua News Agency said. □



In this Aug. 19, 2019, file photo traders Gregory Rowe, left, and Michael Milano work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

**Associated Press**

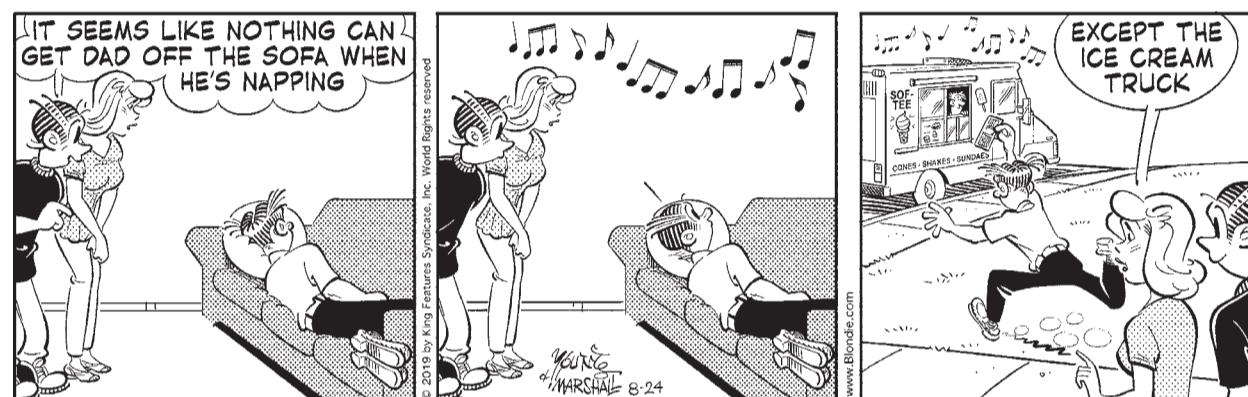
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

5	3		2									1
6			4									7
6	7		9									5
8			4									2
5		3										1
8	2			4								3
		8		3								9

Difficulty Level ★★★★

8/24

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

9	6	5	7	4	3	8	2	1				
2	7	1	8	5	9	6	3	4				
4	3	8	2	1	6	9	7	5				
1	8	3	6	9	5	7	4	2				
6	5	4	1	2	7	3	9	8				
7	9	2	4	3	8	5	1	6				
8	1	6	3	7	2	4	5	9				
3	2	9	5	6	4	1	8	7				
5	4	7	9	8	1	2	6	3				

Yesterday's puzzle answer

9	6	5	7	4	3	8	2	1				
2	7	1	8	5	9	6	3	4				
4	3	8	2	1	6	9	7	5				
1	8	3	6	9	5	7	4	2				
6	5	4	1	2	7	3	9	8				
7	9	2	4	3	8	5	1	6				
8	1	6	3	7	2	4	5	9				
3	2	9	5	6	4	1	8	7				
5	4	7	9	8	1	2	6	3				

ACROSS

- 1 Nick
- 5 Thick sweet drinks
- 10 like; pretends to be
- 14 Hitchhiker's hope
- 15 Foreign farewell
- 16 Small fruit pie
- 17 Kitchen appliance
- 18 The Alamo's location
- 20 Snow ; edible pod
- 21 back; return
- 22 " of Old Smokey"
- 23 Mortgages
- 25 JFK's predecessor
- 26 Overuses the mirror
- 28 Creatures
- 31 Haven; sanctuary
- 32 Old friend
- 34 Shake-; drastic changes
- 36 Barack's 2012 opponent
- 37 Graph
- 38 Stumble
- 39 Sorority letter
- 40 Jelly flavor
- 41 off; lessen gradually
- 42 Iced pastry
- 44 Plain-looking
- 45 Flow back
- 46 Hayes or Hunt
- 47 Sandbank
- 50 Get well
- 51 Element whose symbol is Sn
- 54 Within reach
- 57 Pressing
- 58 Skillful
- 59 Part of USAF
- 60 Strong as \_\_
- 61 Acuff & Orbison
- 62 Enticed
- 63 Inclination

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/24/19

Friday's Puzzle Solved

F	L	E	W	S	O	N	S	E	L	M	S
R	I	L	E	D	T	U	B	E	N	O	A
E	V	A	D	E	R	A	D	C	I	T	P
D	E	S	H	E	I	R	O	N	E	M	R
T	R	E	A	D	M	A	R	E	N	E	D
B	R	I	A	R	S	M	E	T	R	S	T
L	I	C	I	T	S	P	N	E	L	F	E
A	V	I	D	B	E	A	S	T	F	L	A
B	E	T	H	E	A	L	S	E	R	U	P
T	Y	R	A	N	T	E	L	C	T	S	T
A	T	E	W	E	T	T	E	T	E	E	T
S	H	A	D	E	R	V	E	A	L	L	E
L	O	U	I	S	A	N	E	R	N	I	E
A	L	S	O	C	R	O	N	I	C	K	S
M	E	T	S	T	E	N	T	B	E	E	S

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8/24/19

- 4 Name for 2 U.S. presidents
- 7 Out of \_\_; misbehaving
- 8 Ms. Leoni
- 9 Light source
- 10 Does penance
- 11 Jargon
- 12 Half a sextet
- 13 Go no further
- 19 8/24/19
- 21 Head topplers
- 24 Bypass
- 25 Car ding
- 26 \_\_ and Circumstance
- 27 Employee's delight
- 28 Dull speaker
- 29 Paint thinner
- 30 Salesman's pitch
- 32 Overcook
- 33 Snoop Dogg's music
- 35 Peppy
- 37 Nursery bed
- 38 Not wild
- 40 Actor Clark
- 41 Bridge crosser's fee
- 43 Goes away
- 44 Warmed
- 46 Consequently
- 47 Sign of an old wound
- 48 Transient
- 49 Kind of child
- 50 Mister in Munich
- 52 Cast- skillet
- 53 \_\_ of kin; close relation
- 55 Super Bowl presenter, for short
- 56 Loan letters
- 57 Small amount

## Extracted eggs may stop extinction of northern white rhino

By GEOFFREY KAVITI

TOM ODULA

Associated Press

OL PEJETA, Kenya (AP) —

Wildlife experts and veterinarians said Friday there is hope to prevent the extinction of the northern white rhino because they successfully extracted eggs from the last two remaining females of the species. The eggs will be used to reproduce the species through a surrogate.

The groundbreaking procedure was carried out Thursday on the northern white rhinos known as Najin and Fatu who cannot carry a pregnancy. The joint effort by the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, Avantea, Dvur Králové Zoo, Ol Pejeta Conservancy and the Kenya Wildlife Service saw a team of vets successfully harvest a total of ten eggs from the rhinos. The eggs are to be artificially inseminated with frozen sperm from a northern white rhino bull and then transferred to a southern white rhino surrogate mother.

"We are very happy that after this first procedure on Najin and Fatu that they have recovered very smoothly and they are doing really well and fine today just 24 hours after this first procedure," said Dr. Robert Hermes, of the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research.

"We were hoping to get a few eggs from them and our expectations have been exceeded by getting five ... from each," he said.

The death of the world's last male northern white rhino, Sudan, in March 2018, did not end efforts to save a subspecies of one of the world's most recognizable animals. The focus turned to his stored semen and that of four other dead rhinos, as well as the perfection of in vitro fertilization techniques and the critical need to keep the remaining two females alive.

The 45-year-old Sudan, who won widespread affection in 2017 with his listing as "The Most Eligible



Female northern white rhinos Fatu, 19, right, and Najin, 30, left, the last two northern white rhinos on the planet, graze in their enclosure at Ol Pejeta Conservancy, Kenya Friday, Aug. 23, 2019.

Bachelor in the World" on the Tinder dating app in a fundraising effort, was euthanized after age-related complications.

Sudan had been central to the ambitious effort to save the subspecies from extinction after decades of decimation by poachers, along with the two surviving females.

One is his 28-year-old offspring, Najin, and the other is her 18-year-old offspring, Fatu.

The ultimate goal is to create a herd of five to 15 animals that would be returned to their natural habitat in Africa. That could take decades.

Sudan was the last of his kind to be born in the wild, in the country that is his namesake.

He was taken to the Czech

zoo and then transferred to Kenya in 2009, along with the only other remaining northern white rhinos, the two females and a male who died in 2014.

They were placed under 24-hour armed guard and fed a special diet. However, despite the fact that they were seen mating, there were no successful pregnancies.

Rangers caring for Sudan described him as gentle and, as his condition worsened in recent weeks, expressed sadness over his death.

Other rhinos, the southern white rhino and another species, the black rhino, are under heavy pressure from poachers who kill them for their horns to supply illegal markets in parts of Asia. □

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### Assistant Director

Xiomara Arends

### Editor in Chief

Linda Reijnders

(linda.reijnders@cspnv.com)

Liza Koolman (Management assistant)

### Editors

Richard Brooks

Jeancarlo Trinidad

### Sales

Linda Reijnders

(linda.reijnders@cspnv.com)

Sulaika Croes

### Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

### Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

### Social / Website

Cristian Soto Garcia

Pilar Flores

Juan Luis Pinto

### Columnists

Anthony Croes

Joris Zantvoort

Shanella Pantophlet

Steve Frances

Thais Franken

Weststraat 22

T: 582-7800

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# Climate change turns Arctic into strategic, economic hotspot

By DAVID RISING and SETH BORENSTEIN

Associated Press

TASIILAQ, Greenland

(AP) — From a helicopter, Greenland's brilliant white ice and dark mountains make the desolation seem to go on forever. And the few people who live here — its whole population wouldn't fill a football stadium — are poor, with a high rate of substance abuse and suicide.

One scientist called it the "end of the planet."

When U.S. President Donald Trump floated the idea of buying Greenland, it was met with derision, seen as an awkward and inappropriate approach of an erstwhile ally.

But it might also be an Aladdin's Cave of oil, natural gas and rare earth minerals just waiting to be tapped as the ice recedes. The northern island and the rest of the Arctic aren't just hotter due to global warming. As melting ice opens shipping lanes and reveals incredible riches, the region is seen as a new geopolitical and economic asset, with the U.S., Russia, China and others wanting in.

"An independent Greenland could, for example, offer basing rights to either Russia or China or both," said Fen Hampson, the former head of the international security program at the Centre for International Governance Innovation think tank in Waterloo, Ontario, who is now a professor at Carleton University. He noted the desire by some there to secede as a semi-autonomous territory of Denmark.

"I am not saying this would happen, but it is a scenario that would have major geostrategic implications,



In this Aug. 14, 2019, file photo, icebergs are photographed from the window of an airplane carrying NASA scientists as they fly on a mission to track melting ice in eastern Greenland.

Associated Press

especially if the Northwest Passage becomes a transit route for shipping, which is what is happening in the Russian Arctic."

In April, Russian President Vladimir Putin put forward an ambitious program to reaffirm his country's presence in the Arctic, including efforts to build ports and other infrastructure and expand its icebreaker fleet. Russia wants to stake its claim in the region that is believed to hold up to one-fourth of the Earth's undiscovered oil and gas.

China sees Greenland as a possible source of rare earths and other minerals and a port for shipping through the Arctic to the eastern U.S. It called last year for joint development of a "Polar Silk Road" as part of Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative to build railways, ports and other facilities in dozens of countries.

But while global warming pushes the cold and ice farther north each year, experts caution that the race

to the Arctic is an incredibly challenging marathon, not a sprint.

The melting of the Greenland ice sheet creates uncertainty and danger for offshore oil and gas developers, threatening rigs and ships.

"All that ice doesn't suddenly melt; it creates icebergs that you have to navigate around," said Victoria Herrmann, managing director of the Arctic Institute, a nonprofit focused on Arctic security.

On the other hand, while mining in Greenland has been expensive due to the environment, development costs have fallen as the ice has melted, making it more attractive to potential buyers, she said.

Strategically, Greenland forms part of what the U.S. views as a key corridor for naval operations between the Arctic and the North Atlantic. It is also part of the broader Arctic region, considered strategically important because of its proximity to the U.S. and economically vital for its natural resources.

Hampson noted it was an American protectorate during World War II, when Nazi Germany occupied Denmark, and the U.S. was allowed to build radar stations and rent-free bases on its territory after the war. That includes today's Thule

Air Force Base, 1,200 kilometers (745 miles) south of the North Pole.

After the war, the U.S. proposed buying Greenland for \$100 million after flirting with the idea of swapping land in Alaska for parts of the Arctic island. The U.S. also thought about buying Greenland 80 years earlier. Trump "may not be as crazy as he sounds despite his ham-fisted offer, which clearly upset the Danes, and rightly so," Hampson said.

Greenland is part of the Danish realm along with the Faeroe Islands, another semi-autonomous territory, and has its own government and parliament. Greenland's 56,000 residents got extensive home rule in 1979 but Denmark still handles foreign and defense policies, with an annual subsidy of \$670 million. Its indigenous people are not wealthy, and vehicles, restaurants, stores and basic services are few.

Trump said Sunday he's interested in Greenland "strategically," but its purchase is "not No. 1 on the burner."

Although Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen called Trump's idea to purchase Greenland an "absurd discussion," prompting him to call her "nasty" and cancel an upcoming visit to Copenhagen, she also

acknowledged its importance to both nations.

"The developments in the Arctic region calls for further cooperation between the U.S. and Greenland, the Faeroe Islands and Denmark," she said. "Therefore I would like to underline our invitation for a stronger co-operation on Arctic affairs still stands."

Greenland is thought to have the largest deposits outside China of rare earth minerals used to make batteries and cellphones.

Such minerals were deemed critical to economic and national security by the U.S. Interior Department last year, and as demand rises "deposits outside of China will be sought to serve as a counterbalance to any market control that could be exerted by a single large producer," said Kenneth Medlock, senior director at the Center for Energy Studies at Rice University.

Off Greenland's shores, the U.S. Geological Survey estimates there could be 17.5 billion undiscovered barrels of oil and 148 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, though the remote location and harsh weather have limited exploration. Around the Arctic Circle, there's potential for 90 billion barrels of oil.

Only 14 offshore wells were drilled in the past 40 years, according to S&P Global Analytics. So far, no oil in exploitable quantities has been found.

"It's very speculative, but in theory they could have a lot of oil," said Michael Lynch, president of Strategic Energy & Economic Research Inc. "It's perceived as being the new Alaska, where the old Alaska was thought to be worthless and turned out to have huge reserves. And it's one of the few places on Earth that's lightly populated, and it's close to the U.S."

Michael Byers, an Arctic expert at the University of British Columbia, suggests there are better approaches for Washington than the politically awkward suggestion of purchasing Greenland. □

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## Model became Dior muse by knocking on his door

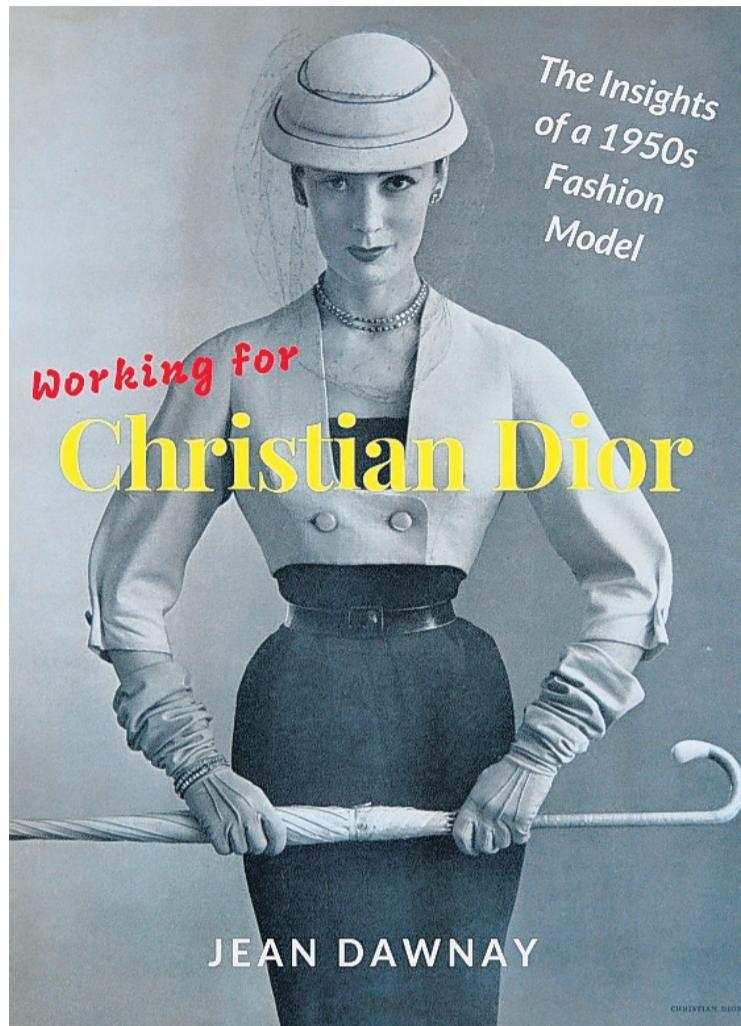
By HILARY FOX  
Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — Before there were supermodels, there were "mannequins" — living, breathing women who played an active role in designing haute couture by standing very, very still. Designers and artisans would pin, prod or tuck fabric and toile to the mannequins to bring sketches and ideas to life.

In 1950, one such mannequin, the British model Jean Dawnay, went to work full-time in Paris at the fashion house of Christian Dior. This contract alone was enough to earn her newspaper coverage in Britain at the time, but she also wrote a book about her experiences. "Model Girl," published in 1956, went behind the scenes of fashion shows, couture houses and photoshoots, lifting the veil on the hard work that goes into glamour.

Now Dawnay's daughter, Katya Galitzine, is re-releasing a section of the memoir as "Working for Christian Dior" (Zuleika Books) to coincide with the "Christian Dior: Designer of Dreams" exhibition at the V&A Museum in London.

Galitzine says her mother arrived in France on the way back from a modeling job in Venice and spent a few days knocking on designers' doors, asking for



This image made available by Zuleika Books shows the book cover image of 'Working For Christian Dior' by Jean Dawnay.

Associated Press

work.

"She only went to the Houses whose perfumes she knew, because that was how she knew the names, and every single one of them wanted her, so she must have had something," Galitzine says. "I mean, she did have something. But she was very beautiful, she was very elegant. She

adapted very well to whatever people wanted, and she had an 18-inch waist." Although she spoke no French, Dawnay's cold calling paid off, and she accepted a contract at Dior's atelier.

"They had to clock in, like in a factory, at 9 o'clock, and then she would stand, literally stand and be pushed

around and shoved around and pricked and pinned," her daughter explains.

Galitzine found one Dior dress hidden at the back of a wardrobe after her mother died in 2016.

"There was this beautiful, wool worsted tight-waisted dress that's called 'Nonette' that was original Christian Dior, numbered. If you did a test on it, it would probably have his DNA dust on it because he actually made it on my mother in 1950," she says. "And it was the dress that she wore at the original Savoy show that brought Christian Dior to London in spring 1950."

The dress is part of the V&A show. In footage of the Savoy Hotel show, Dawnay wears a white debutante dress called "Innocence," a white embroidered dress "Muguet de Mai," a silk coat called "Ravel" and a dinner dress made of straw lace.

After Dawnay left Dior, her celebrity status continued to rise.

In 1951, Vogue took the unusual step of sending her and several other models to an event in Australia, Galitzine says. "Clothes had been sent to locations, but once the clothes got there, they'd find pretty local girls, local models, to be the model. To actually pay on an aircraft for five girls and put them up in a ho-

tel — that was enormous. So those five girls became 'supermodels.'"

Dawnay wrote her memoir in Majorca, where she socialized with Prince Rainier and Grace Kelly, who were there on their honeymoon.

"She'd spend all day writing her book and then not have to worry about food because she'd go to this fantastic yacht and have dinner," Galitzine says. In photos of her mother and Kelly from that period, she says, "they looked so similar actually. They're very much that '50s style with the scarves and their pointed glasses."

The comparisons didn't end there: Dawnay also went on to marry a prince — a Russian emigre to Britain. She became Princess George Galitzine.

In later years, she wrote another book about modeling, made regular appearances on quiz shows, advised stores on fashion, and did charity work.

In an interview with The Associated Press at a Dior 50th anniversary exhibition in 1997, Dawnay recalled the excitement of those days: "After the war, with the austerity and clothes rationing, coupons, when Dior came on the scene, it was such a sensation — these incredibly feminine, romantic, beautiful clothes with so much material." □

## Daughter's sleep training influenced Knightley's latest role

By LOUISE DIXON  
Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — Keira Knightley's edginess while playing a real-life Iraq War whistle-blower in the political thriller "Official Secrets" wasn't all an act. The decision to sleep train her 3-year-old daughter during filming meant she wasn't faking it when it came to the emotional side of the role. "I felt very on edge, but for different reasons. So I used it all," Knightley joked during a recent interview. It's not a method she'd recommend to her

fellow thespians. "Any actresses out there, do not move the child from the cot to the bed when you're just about to play a lead role in a film that has a lot of words in it because remembering them is quite tricky," Knightley said. The actress had a lot of important lines playing Katherine Gun, a translator at the British government's communications headquarters in the early 2000s. While there, Gun leaked a confidential United States National Security Agency email exposing illegal ac-

tivities to a British newspaper. The memo proved that the U.K. and U.S. governments were in collusion over spying on countries that were wavering in their support for the war. After the information hit the front pages of newspapers, Gun confessed and was subsequently arrested and charged under the Official Secrets Act.

Knightley admits that despite being a politically engaged 18-year-old at the time of the Iraq War, she had no memory of Gun's extraordinary story. □



In this Monday, Feb. 18, 2019, file photo, actress Keira Knightley poses for photographers upon arrival at the premiere of the film "The Aftermath" in London.

Associated Press

# Life-changing 'Power': Stars reflect on series' impact

By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.  
Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — It's tough to overstage the impact of "Power."

The series turned Starz into a must-watch cable network for many viewers, proved 50 Cent's instincts correct and along the way turned its characters into internet sensations and in some cases, household names.

While much of the show focused on Omari Hard-

wick's character, James "Ghost" St. Patrick, and his double life as a drug kingpin wanting to turn legit, its supporting cast proved equally compelling.

Ahead of the show's sixth and final season premiere on Sunday, Hardwick and other cast members reflect on how "Power" changed their lives.

**OMARI HARDWICK** (James "Ghost" St. Patrick)

Omari Hardwick didn't

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In this Friday, July 26, 2019, photo, Omari Hardwick poses for portrait during Television Critics Association Summer Press Tour at the Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

want to play Ghost after reading script for "Power," because he was satisfied with being a backup co-star as he'd been on BET's "Being Mary Jane" and the films "Beauty Shop" and "Sparkle." But Hardwick's wife encouraged him to take on the lead role.

Best move ever.

Hardwick may not have had a problem landing roles before "Power," but he's picked up even more in the last five years.

He's had prominent roles in "Sorry to Bother You," "Nobody's Fool" and "A Boy. A Girl. A Dream." He's also filming "Army of the Dead," starring Ella Purnell, Dave Bautista and Garret Dillahunt.

None of those roles was similar to Hardwick's Ghost. The former college football said "Power" helped him land parts that showcased other facets of his acting.

"It's definitely been a launch pad for me," said Hardwick, 45, a native of Decatur, Georgia. "The great Al Pacino said, 'I'm unemployed after every job that was over.' He did alright for himself."

**JOSEPH SIKORA** (Tommy Egan)

Joseph Sikora has been acting for more than three decades, but his "Power" character stands as his most memorable one.

Sikora plays the gun-toting,

cold-hearted Tommy who savors the drug world. He's also Ghost's best friend and business partner, who he often tries to convince to stay in the drug game. Tommy is a fan-favorite, and given Sikora the most consistent acting work of his career.

"How has it changed my life? I'm able to pay my bills," he said. "I don't have to delegate where the money goes and decide on whether I'm paying the phone bill. Buying a gift for somebody's birthday or just draw them a card. It's nice to have options. It's good to know where your food is going to come from, and not get the day old vegetables from Chinatown."

But Sikora thought his breakout role would have led to more opportunities sooner.

"It was a much slower process than I was ready for," said Sikora, 43, who appeared in a McDonald's commercial as a teenager with Michael Jordan. The Chicago native starred on Broadway and has appeared in an array of TV shows including "Boardwalk Empire," "Grey's Anatomy," "True Detective" and the film "Shutter Island."

"I still audition. Unfortunately at a lower level than I was anticipating after the success of this show," he

said. "But whatever it is, I'm never afraid of hard work."

It might be slower than Sikora hoped, but he's staying busy. During his "Power" tenure, he's starred in the film "The Intruder," as Frog Jack in the TV series "Underground" and will star in the upcoming "Jacob's Ladder" remake.

**LELA LOREN** (Angela Valdes)

Before Lela Loren was cast to play federal prosecutor Angela "Angie" Valdes, she was on the verge of moving in with her parents. "That's not a thing anymore," said Loren, who auditioned for the role and was uncertain if she could land it. She had appeared in several TV shows including "CSI: Miami" and "Cold Case" along with a small film role in "The Hangover Part III."

But Loren said being a main character on "Power" changed the course of her career.

"You benefit from financial stability," she said. "With anyone who takes a creative path, there's such a hard road to navigate. Most of us had crazy odd jobs. I was a waitress forever." In the show, Loren's character rekindles a relationship with Ghost, who she dated as a teen but ultimately discovers is married and a New York drug kingpin. □

## Fans choose sides in the 'Chicken Sandwich War' of our time

By KATIE WORKMAN

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A nation already polarized finds itself divided once again, but this time politics isn't at the heart of it: The blame lies squarely on a fried piece of poultry.

People are choosing sides and beefing over chicken, thanks to Popeyes' release of its crispy chicken sandwich and the social media debate that has followed. With just one addition to a fast-food menu, the hierarchy of chicken sandwiches in America was rattled, and the supremacy of Chick-fil-A and others was threatened.

It's been a trending topic on social media, fans have weighed in with YouTube commentaries and memes, and some have reported long lines just to get a taste of the new sandwich.

"Our grandchildren will ask us where we were when the great Chicken War of 2019 began," Twitter user @ MilesRodrigo1 declared. While Popeyes has been selling chicken for a long time, the chain was a contender in the bone-in, skin-on, fried-chicken space, not the fried, boneless, skinless cutlet on a bun.

Popeyes announced the new sandwich on Twitter last week with hyperbole that would soon define the social media commotion to come: "Chicken. Brioche. Pickles. New. Sandwich. Popeyes. Nationwide. So.



Randy Estrada holds up his chicken sandwiches at a Popeyes, Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019, in Kyle, Texas.

Associated Press

Good. Forgot. How. Speak. In. Complete. Sandwiches. I mean, sentences."

And from that moment, it was ON.

People began ardently advocating for their favorite sandwich, whether it be the new-kid-on-the-block Popeyes one, or the OG Wendy's or Chick-fil-A versions.

And the social media managers for the companies reveled in the green light to talk smack to each other.

"We Didn't Invent The Chicken, Just The Chicken Sandwich!" Chick-fil-A bragged on Twitter. "Bun + Chicken + Pickles = all the (heart emoji) for the original."

To which Wendy's responded: "Ya'll out here talking about which of these fools has the second best chicken sandwich."

Popeye's quick retort: "Sounds like someone just ate one of our biscuits. Cause ya'll looking thirsty." (Which frankly seemed as if they were bragging about dry over-salted biscuits? Wendy's thought so, too, tweeting, "lol, guess that means the food's dry as the jokes.")

As the week wore on, people debated on social media, in chat rooms, in person.

And even though the topic was the chicken, there were political overtones,

with some throwing their backing to Popeyes because they disagreed with Chick-fil-A's opposition to LGBTQ rights and its chief executive's derogatory comments about same-sex marriage. (Though the chain has insisted that it has "no political or social agenda.")

Even the weighty New Yorker chimed in: Food writer Helen Rosner called Popeye's new edition "simply beautiful" in a commentary titled "The Popeyes Chicken Sandwich is Here To Save America."

But why has the meager poultry sandwich riveted a nation so? Why do people have such intense feelings

about a fried chicken cutlet on a bun?

Nancy Hopkins, former food director of Better Homes & Gardens magazine, and a veteran food editor for over 20 years, has this to say: "America loves anything crunchy, salty, crackly, and good. And Americans love chicken . just about any way."

"But this sandwich is simple and straight to the point," she said.

"We love fried chicken, but we don't make it at home and we love it as a splurge. The sandwich seems less guilty. The thought of it fitting nicely on a bun seems better for us. It is just simpler all the way around. Pressure fried chicken, a pickle, and a bun."

In February Bon Appetit ran a story about why fried chicken sandwiches were so popular, and traced the answer to a creation in the 1960s by Atlanta restaurateur S. Truett Cathy.

In the ensuing years everyone from fast-food chains to renowned chefs started offering their version of the fried-chicken sandwich, with many garnering praise and a devoted following.

In 2011 David Chang opened cult-favorite Fuku in New York, a restaurant centered on the beauty of fried-chicken sandwiches. Shake Shack rolled out their super popular take on the sandwich nationally in summer 2016 to high acclaim. □

## Raphael Saadiq's history imbues stirring 'Jimmy Lee'

By PABLO GORONDI

Associated Press

Raphael Saadiq, "Jimmy Lee" (Columbia Records)

"Jimmy Lee" is a stirring album combining Raphael Saadiq's trademark vintage soul sounds with moving gospel, disquieting soundscapes and closing triad of tunes that pulls no punches in addressing social ills and personal doubts. Saadiq's family losses to addictions and other tragedies — "an unfortunate string of mishaps would eventually take the lives of three brothers and

a sister" — were mentioned already on the lead track of his 2002 solo debut, "Instant Vintage," but "Jimmy Lee," named after one of his late siblings, deepens and expands the references and connections in songs and stories about decisions, fates and outcomes.

Opener "Sinners Prayer" details hardships and anxiety with barely a sliver of hope while "So Ready" puts a funky bass line on top of a thick click track amid queries like "Can someone heal my soul?" Despair is everywhere and

even a brief mid-album oasis — "I'm Feeling Love" — seems to come with a poisoned well.

Both the unrelenting "My Walk" and the hypnotic "Glory to the Veins" are heartrending, made even more so by mentions of Jimmy Lee and another of Saadiq's deceased brothers. The striking "Rikers Island" and a follow-up monologue by actor Daniel J. Watts pull no punches in expressing the injustices of the prison system and society at large — "Wake up, America, and hurry." □



In this Feb. 5, 2018 file photo, Raphael Saadiq arrives at the 90th Academy Awards nominees luncheon in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

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